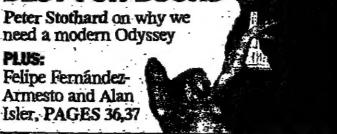
PASSPORT TO EUROPE



BEST FOR BOOKS

Peter Stothard on why we need a modern Odyssey

Felipe Fernández-Armesto and Alan



DEATH OF A LEGEND

The life and loves of Pamela Harriman, P9 Obituary, P19



BEST FOR

WANTED ☐ Executive. ☐ Director. appointments, 32-page

Hidden TV camera shows deal to smuggle painting out of Italy

Senior staff suspended by Sotheby's

SOTHEBY'S, the world's oldest and biggest auctioneers, suspended senior members of staff yesterday amid allega-tions that it systematically broke the law to smuggle art treasures to London.

A hidden carried by an investigator from the Channel 4 Dispatches pro-gramme filmed Roeland Kollewijn, Sotheby's Old Masters expert in Milan, offering to smuggle a work by the Italian painter Giuseppe Nogari to Britain. He makes a series of damaging admis-sions, acknowledging that it was illegal for the 18th century portrait to leave Italy.

The film also records Sotheby's senior director George Gordon taking delivery of the Nogari at the New Bond Street salerooms in

The programme, to be broadcast tonight, is the culmination of six years' work by

the arts journalist Peter Watson whose book, Sotheby's: The Inside Story, begins its serialisation in The Times today. The book accuses Soitheby's of arranging the illegal export of Old Masters from Italy to England, of involvement in the export of antiquities from India to England, of creating false paper-work to conceal the origin of items, and of rigging the Art Market Index and auctions.

Sotheby's last night claimed the investigation had deliberately enticed employees into

by selling the Nogari in London or New York than in Italy. Asked how she could get the painting out of the country, says "I'm not telling this as Sotheby's" and then explains a procedure which would cost a million lire (£450)

Talking about what would happen after the picture had been smuggled, he says: "It goes to an address in London. and then Sotheby's expert goes there and says. Oh, how nice, what a surprise!" — he knows. but he doesn't ... If anything goes wrong he says, I saw those pictures in London. I didn't know the owner exported them illegally."

tion," a statement said. "Such

behaviour, if proven, does not

represent the company's prac-

tices, nor will it be condoned

by the company's manage-

fused, however, to say how

many staff had been suspend-

Watson set up his "sting" in

March last year when, posing

as an art collector, he bought Nogari's Old Woman With A Cup in Naples for £9,500. He then sent a freelance lighting

camerawoman, Victoria Parn-

all, into Sotheby's Milan office with instructions to pose as an

Australian who had inherited

she wanted to sell.

valuable collection which

She wore a crystal brooch

which concealed a tiny fish-

eye camera and microphone

On her second visit, Mr Kollewijn is filmed telling her

that she could get more money by selling the Nogari in

ed or to identify them.

The auctioneers re-



Nogari's Old Woman with a Cup fetched £7,000 - a loss for the "sting" operation

£7,000 on July 3 to yet another

will get 5 million lire (£2,300) more if she sells the painting in London, but insists that he will deny all knowledge of the operation if it is uncovered. He gets her to sign a slip saying that she has taken the picture away with her, explaining: "I'm not going to smuggle it until I have it out of this office legally. It's not that I don't trust you, it's just that this is

such a filthy business."

The investigator left the picture with Sotheby's and two months later it arrived in London. On May 28 another

Mr Kollewijn tells her she member of Watson's team quired in or exported from its who sold it at auction for

> member of the team posing as a buyer. The painting was later returned to Italy. The Sotheby's staff's alleged activities break Italian law and directly contravene the British Antique Dealers' Association code of practice. That states that members should not "import, export or transfer the ownership of such objects where they have reasonable cause to believe ... that an imported object has been ac-

of that country's laws". Sotheby's, founded in 1744 by the London bookseiler Samuel Baker, has 1,600 emloyees with offices in London, New York, Paris, Rome, Madrid, Amsterdam and Geneva. The last of the Sotheby family to be involved died in 1861. In 1983 the company was bought by the American developer Alfred Taubman, who owns 65 per cent of the firm. In 1995 its turnover was \$1.48 billion compared with Christie's \$1.41

Family of man who died in knife struggle 'devastated'

BY RICHARD DUCE AND CAROL MIDGLEY

A HEADMISTRESS described her total devastation' yesterday on learning that her husband was stabbed to death as he struggled with a bank manager's wife at her home. Soon after identifying the

body of David Stuchbery, 49, his widow, Linda, said she had no explanation for the attack on a neighbour, a mother of two boys. The woman was in hospital last night after she suffered "defence wounds" wrestling a knife from Mr Stuchbery and then apparently stabbing him

It was unclear whether she had been subjected to a sexual assault. She was briefly questioned by detectives in hospital in an attempt to discover what happened at her detached house in the village of Densole near Folkestone, Kent.

She is in the skin-graft unit at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead, Sussex. She requires surgery to hand wounds believed to have been inflicted as she fought off the attacker.

The woman, who supple mented the family income by working as an Avon lady, was said to be in a satisfactory and comfortable condition. Her husband has asked that no divulged. They want absolute privacy," a hospital spokes-man said. It is understood a solicitor was present during the interview by police.

Mr Stuchbery, the father of a 14-year old daughter, was known to have bought cosmetics from her but police are unsure whether he deliberately set out to attack her or whether she was a victim of a random assault. Detectives are investigating reports that Mr Stuchbery was wandering streets near his home from

8am on Tuesday before he called at the house. Detective Chief Inspector Chris Sparks, who is leading the inquiry, said he could not

comment on whether there

DOUBLE SECTION

was a sexual motive. Mrs Stuchbery, 47. headschool near Dover, emerged briefly from her bungalow about 500 yards from where her husband died - to issue a yesterdav statement afternoon.

Supported by Keith Jennings, Kent County Council's area director of Education, she



Stuchbery: stabbed to death in struggle

said: "I and my family an day's events. We feel extremely sorry for the other family involved and wish to express our deepest sympathy. I'm very concerned as to what happened yesterday. The police are conducting a thorough investigation which will reveal the truth.

"David was a very good husband and a marvellous father and whatever has happened is really totally out of

'Good neighbour', page 5

Tube privatisation is postponed

Victoria Parnall was the undercover camera operator

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

reaction has forced the Government to shelve a highprofile launch for its Tube privatisation plans.

The negative response to leaked details of the sale alarmed Brian Mawhinney, the Tory pary chairman, and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister - both in charge of presenting the policy. They decided to pull the launch ahead of the planned announcement by Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, in the Commons

today. The Government was hop-ing the privatisation would prove a vote-winner among long-suffering commuters in



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



terly oppose a sale. TV & RADIO CROSSWORDS.....

FEARS of a hostile public London and the South East. Now it is reviewing whether there is any political advantage in amouncing it before the general election: Officials have twice been

told to prepare for Commons announcements - one scheduled for Monday and one for today - but each was can-celled at the last minute. A Department of Transport spokesman yesterday con-firmed: There will be no annotmorment this week Labour said the Govern-

ment's reluctance to go public had made Tube privatisation "the policy that dare not speak its name". Glenda Jackson, Labour's spokeswoman for transport in London, said that John Major was being forced to press on with it to appease his right-wing critics.

Senior Conservative sources said the Government still intended to announce the sale before the election and that it would definitely be included in the manifesto, but said that the climate had been soured by "inaccurate leaks". Documents had suggested selling the world's most extensive Underground system could yield as little at £600 million

net proceeds for the taxpayer. In a later memo; Sir George admitted to Mr Major that proceeds could even be exceeded by a privatisation subsidy. Most Landon Underground senior managers, including Denis Tunnicliffe, the chief executive, are believed to bit-

Labour is elected. The Labour Party voted for very large increases last year and now.

The Cabinet has also been put in a difficult position in the wake of Gordon Brown's announcement that he will veto recommendations - rumoured to be up to 6 per cent from the senior salaries review body, which covers 5,000 ment is expected to phase those awards as well.

Cabinet to phase in nurses' and teachers' pay award

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Cabinet is expected to agree today to 2 per cent pay rises for 1.3 million public sector workers this April, with a top-up in December. Ministers will back a recom-

mendation from Kenneth Clarke that higher-thaninflationg awards for nurses, teachers, doctors and the armed forces should be phased in over nine months. The review bodies covering these groups are said to have recommended increases of between 3 per cent and 4 per cent, but the Chancellor will argue today that that is unaffordable given the spend-

ing restraints. Phasing the awards will much reduce the net cost but risks confrontation with pub-

ic sector unions. judges, military chiefs and top civil servants. The Govern-

Mr Brown came under fire from judges and military chiefs yesterday after his decision to freeze their pay this year. Judges said that the judiciary could face recruitment problems and accused Mr Brown of a vote-catching move using a "soft target".

The Prime Minister accused the Shadow Chancellor of "macho postering" and Mr Clarke said that the plan to public relations position." veto recommendations from the top salaries review body was "silly and populist". Speaking in London, Mr Major said: "It is the sort of

ever, that Mr Brown's tough macho posturing you get into if you try and make commitments you know people do not helieve and he cannot possibly keep." He also ridiculed Mr Brown's decision to deprive Cabinet ministers of £16,000 if



*Before you pass sen-tence m'lud, my client would like to express how vehemently he opposes Gordon Brown's recent remarks"

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COURT & SOCIAL18

without any consultation, they suddenly decide to take this

Mr Brown has extended the pay freeze to all MPs, but he said that that would be put to a vote in the Commons soon after a Labour victory.
It emerged last night, how

line on pay concealed uncertainties about the timing of a pay freeze. Sources close to the Shadow Chancellor agreed that it would be difficult to claw back rises from top public servants if they had received pay rises due on April l before the general election. It is more likely that Mr Brown would withhold the second stage of a phased increase.

His announcement was greeted with dismay by Jonathan Baume, general secre-tary-designate of the First Division Association of top civil servants. The signal that comes from this is that if you work very bard, you are a very conscientious, dedicated senior public servant, then whatever your performance you should receive no increase," he told Radio 4's

Today programme.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Armitage said the announcement was "quite dis-graceful" and would "cost them a lot of votes".

Judges complain, page 2 Peter Riddell, page 8 William Rees-Mogg, page 16 1930s.

Simpson requires \$1.2m for appeal

O. J. Simpson is expected to appeal against the verdict of the civil case that he was liable for the deaths of his wife Nicole and Ronald Goldman but a technicality of Californian law means he must produce at least \$1.2 million (£750,000) first.

The state law requires that Mr Simpson first provide a guarantee that he will pay what damages he can should the appeal fail. Facing rain, page 11

Midweek lottery sales hit £30m

The first midweek National Lottery draw was made last night with a jackpot of £10 million. The winning num-bers were 25, 9, 35, 28, 29 and Bonus number was 37. Camelot estimated that tick-

et sales were around £30 million. David Rigg, communications director for the company, said: "The midweek draw has got off to a flying

German jobless highest since 30s

risen to to 4.6 million, dashing the Government's hope of an early recovery on the labour market and pushing the Maastricht monetary union targets farther out of reach. The January figures show that about 450,000 Germans lost their jobs last month. giving the country the highest unemployment level since the

German unemployment has

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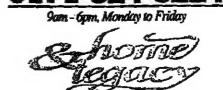
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WILLIAM REES-MOGG 16

LETTERS

OBITUARIES

Close scrutiny fails to elicit the meaning of men in wigs

strange men in wigs. Everybody at Westminster has seen them, yet their identities are hazy, their function a mystery. So regular a feature are they that we hardly notice them, never study them, and never ask what they do.

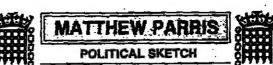
Questions to the Secretary of State for Scotland yester-day, when MPs with funny accents shout at each other for an hour on complex matters, is an ideal time to concentrate on something else. So this sketch tried to

a clerk?" and "what does a clerk do?" After 60 minutes of intense field study, we were none the wiser.

Picture the Commons Chamber. At one end sits the Speaker on a raised dais, her fect (often slipped from their shoes) on a footstool. At her feet is a huge oak table. At a big oak table before her, their backs just out of ticklingreach of her toes, sit three weird creatures, in a row. I shall call them (from her right to left) Creatures A. B and C. All are of similar height in

buttons, white wing-collar shirts and white ties. Each wears a full-bottomed wig with a pigtail ending in a kiss-curl. Each wears goldframed spectacles. In front of each a small drawer, and, on

the table, a quill pen and ink. Creature A wears a small Chinese beard and a faintly censorious expression. Creature B is a somewhat portly, with a pursed face across which flits, from time to time, the ghost of a hint of owlish amusement. Creature C, the



youngest, has a sharp nose and brow lined with studious concern. C fidgets a bit. A and B remain motionless.

At Madam Speaker's left arm stands a gentleman-inwaiting with iron grey hair and spectacles: Creature D. He wears morning dress with a white pocket handkerchief. This Creature has long, par-row shoes, like a down. A blue clipboard on his knee carries the Order Paper onto which he marks a Member's name when he speaks. Occasionally Madam Speaker whispers to him. He appears

to have no other function. Creatures A. B and C have Order Papers too; and from time to time remove a Hansard from a green file and look idly at it. Mostly. syth, the Scottish Secretary,

plans to pour red dye into the Ciyde, Clerk B moved his left ieg. When Anthony Steen (C. S Hams) suggested that new legislation for Scotland should be weighed, and remain inoperative until the same weight of old legislation had been destroyed, Creature A frowned. As George Rob-ertson complained of delays to the Firearms Bill, Creature B opened his drawer, with-

accused Labour Glasgow of

paper plane? Malcolm Chisholm, a Labour spokesman, ranted about "18 years of Tory failure". Creature B pulled a blue book from his drawer, then ture C then did the same. Creature A never did anything. We conclude that he was the senior Creature.

Questions were over. Madam Speaker called two MPs to

though, they stare into space with strange expressions.

Once, when Michael For
Once, when Mic ed them to Creature B. Creature C leaned down and, picking up a water bottle and a glass, filled the glass. Creature D moved from the Speaker's side, took the glass, and offered it to the Speaker. She drank, returning the glass to Creature D, who returned it to Creature C.

eacher has aft hade c

That is all they did. The coming election may bring many changes but, after it, these Creatures will still be there, their habits unchanged.

Second

Sellafield

leak in

24 hours

A second leak of radioactivity within 24 hours has been found at the British Nuclear

Fuels site at Sellafield, Com-bria. Rain on Monday

washed contamination from a building's roof but the

company said no workers had been affected and there

was no public danger. At the Atomic Energy Authority's Dounreay plant in Califaness, management said two new areas of contamination had been found on the site.

Gardiner writ

Sir George Gardiner, the Conservative MP deselected by his local party last week,

Labour plan for top people's pay freeze is condemned as unjust attack on soft target

Judges fear salary gap will deter new recruits

By Frances GIBB, LEGAL CORESPONDENT

JUDGES said yesterday that a Labour pay freeze could damage recruitment because of the gap between earnings of judges and leading lawyers, from whom judges are drawn.

The 1.500-strong judiciary would be among those hardest hit because the Senior Salaries Review Body has been conducting a fundamental review of their earnings. The review, set up after concerns that judges' earnings were falling behind, looked at differentials between judicial posts and also at the relative earnings between judges and lawyers in

Lord Justice Saville, a Lord Justice of Appeal, said yesterday that this gap was now huge. When he became a High Court judge, he was earning almost £300,000 a year at the commercial Bar: the High Court post paid about £45,000. Now, top commercial QCs ten times the £104,415 salary of

"I do not complain, because after all judges know the score and they take on the job for

although it does seem odd that a barrister who is only three years qualified can now be earning the same as a High Court judge with 30 years'

The whole point of the review was to take judges out of the political arena. "But every time it does not suit the political scene, politicians de-

cide to ignore its findings."
A circuit judge said that judges were already suffering the effects of a delayed pay award. In 1992, the review body recommended 20 per cent, and Government accepted four per cent - which was awarded in stages and only recently completed. "Judges are a soft target," he added. "We are talking about a small group of people and small sums of money. But it's a votecatching move."

He added that it was important that the review body's recommendations were folwas to be preserved.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, said



Lord Justice Saville salary: £104,415

recently that unless judges were properly paid, the ranks of the judiciary would fill with "second best" candidates. Judicial salaries had been held at a level roughly on a par with senior public servants.

But the English judicial tradition depended on the willingness of successful practitioners to accept appointment. That could not be relied on if the "dispiriting chasm" between judges and lawyers became too great.

Current salaries are: £132,147 for the Lord Chief Justice: £122,203 law lords; E117,164 Court of Appeal judges: £104,415 High Court judges; £39.118 senior circuit pensions from being adverse-judges; £76,703 circuit judges; ly affected." £62,611 district judges.



FORMER Service chiefs expressed particular concern about the impact of a pay

A serviceman's pension is based on his final salary. Senior commanders retiring during a pay freeze would suffer injustice, said Field Marshal Lord Carver, Chief of the Defence Staff from 1973 to 1976.

crisis and it was a question of making sacrifices for the good of the nation, then there would be no argument, but this is not the case." Lord Carver said.

The pension of Field Maxshal Lord Bramall, Chief of the Defence Staff from 1982 to 1985, was based on a final salary of £60,000 but could have been based on £72,000 - the salary recommended by the top salaries review board — had it not been for a government freeze.

He said: "I went through many pay freezes in my time. I'm not against them if the Government of the day feels it is necessary, but they can, have a very bad impact on Admiral of the Fleet Lord



Lewin, Chief of the Defence Staff from 1979 to 1982, said that a pay freeze would result ers being overtaken by more junior officers on the salary scale. This would discourage officers from seeking promo-tion. Air Chief Sir Michael Armitage, a former Chief of Defence Intelligence, said that it would drive "good men" out of the Services. Under current salary scales for the most senior

ranks, major-generals and their equivalent in the Royal Navy and RAF receive star generals £101,230. The Chief of the Defeace Staff is



of Labour's pay freeze would be Sir Robin Butler, Cabinet Secretary and head of the Home Civil Service, who is due to retire next January. Senior officials in Whitehall said most senior grades would cope with a one-year freeze and that the main disappoint-

ment would be for those retiring. Sources dampened expectations that the Senior Salary Review Board would recommend a 6 per cent rise for civil servants. The figure is expected to be nearer 3 per cent. "When officials have such great expectations from a Labour government, it seems very strange for Gordon Brown to upset them by

raising this, an insider said.

Civil service unions were last night seeking a meeting with the Shadow Chancellor. Pensions appeared to be the main area of contention. Without an increase from April I. Sir Robin's will be worked out on his present salary, between £120,000 to £125,000.

Jonathan Baume, of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, said last night: "In our view, it is vital that the pay of public servants does not become a political football. We recognise the problems any government will face in con- tary, £90,000 to £154,500.



Sir Robin Butler Salary: up to £125,000

trolling public spending and public sector pay. But we believe it is unfair to single out

one particular group."

Jenny Thurston, of the Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists, said: "We feel it is inappropriate that we are being asked to make the sacrifice when people in the private sector are paid half as much again." Sir Peter Kemp, a former senior civil servant, was unperturbed: This has been

done before by Labour and Tories. Denior civil servants are paid according to bands. to £59,700; band 9, £80,000 to £113,300; Permanent. Secre

own," he added.

Some 40 Labour MPs have

tabled a Commons motion.

sponsored by Mr Mackinlay,

urging ministers to forgo the

increase. It reads: "Between

midnight on polling day and the time of their resignation

from office a few hours later. [ministers"] severance pay would be enhanced by an additional \$4,000." It adds:

We consider this unwarrant-

ed and unjustified windfall

would be deeply offensive to

other public sector workers.

those on low pay and the unemployed for whom sever-

ance pay entitlement was little more than a dream."

Mr Mackinlay said: "Politi-

said his lawyers had served a High Court writ calling for the vote to be declared invalid. The Reigate MP is seeking an injunction to pre-vent the association selecting a new prospective candidate at the general election. NHS 'rationing' A working party sponsored by the NHS executive issued

a direct challenge to ministers to accept that rationing of health care was inevitable. The NHS will never be able to provide everything re-quired of it and difficult choices must be made, says the group in a report "Priority setting in the NHS".

Two shot in raid A member of the public and a

security guard were shot by gunmen yesterday in a raid on council offices in Bury. Both men were "comfort-able" in hospital last night. The three raiders escaped, but it was not known whether any money was taken from the council tax payment

Wildlife shield

Police, customs officers and magistrates are to be given new powers to combat wildlife crime and to impose jail sentences of up to three months for serious offences. The laws, due to come into effect on June 1, will enable police and Government wildlife inspectors to seize cages

Masonic check

Would be magistrates should have to declare whether they are Freemasons, the chairman of the Magistrates Association said. Anne Fuller told the Select Committee on Home Affairs studying Masonic influence in the legal system that current magis-trates should also be obliged to say if they have joined.

inquiry on baby Police were called in to investigate the death of a baby at Burnley General Hospital. Neil and Gemma Taylor, whose daughter. Charlie Louise, was believed to have

been born with physical prob-lems and lived for only 13 hours, had complained they had been given no informa-tion about how she died.

Threat to ferry

A Scottish ferry crossing, in existence for more than 1,000 years, which was used by Robert the Bruce and James IV, may be forced to close at the end of March because of council cutbacks. The crossing between Nigg and Cromarty last year carried 20,000



0800 700 767

Cards

Cabinet ministers may cash in on polling day

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

ministers are paid £44,000 plus their MPs salary of

£43,000. The £16,000 increase, which will take their ministe-

rial pay to £60,000, will add a

CABINET ministers will be paid a further E4,000 severance money if the Conservatives lose the general election. At midnight on polling day, the salaries of Cabinet ministers will rise by £16,000. Their severance payments will rise accordingly, even though they will be out of a job within

hours if Labour wins the Ministers who are sacked, because of a general election defeat are entitled to one

resign, or lose their job quarter of their government through this technicality will salary. At present, Cabinet make a very nice down pay-

further £4,000 to their severance package.

Andrew Mackinlay, the Labour MP for Thurrock who

spotted the anomaly, said yesterday that he looked for-ward to Tory ministers handing in the keys to their chauffeur-driven limousines the day after polling. "But the extra £4.000 they will receive

Tories urge Major to delay until May CONSERVATIVE MPs gave

John Major a strong signal last night that they want him to soldier on until May 1 for than 100 MPs at the weekly meeting of the 1922 committee heard an up-to-date re-port on campaigning plans from Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman.

But there was a loud banging of desks from some three quarters of those present when Bill Walker, MP for North Tayside, called on Mr Major to play it long. By contrast two MPs who suggested that earlier dates might be favourable were received in sitence.

Dr Mawhinney gave no hint of his or the Prime Minister's thinking on timing, but a Conservative lead-

wards: "The clear message was for May."
Dr Mawhinney told MPs

the party's private polling suggested that Gordon Brown's attempt to convince voters that Labour would not

spending Labour local authorities. "When people mention Labour, ask them where they think the money is coming from," he told the

Most Tory MPs appear to be fiercely opposed to the idea floated by some strate-

cians should not be able to

raise spending or taxation was not believed. The MPs called on him to put more resources into exposing the behaviour of high-

gists of "pulling" the Wirral South by election and going to the country on March 20.

benefit at tempayers' expense from a pay rise which applies to them for a few hours until they have handed back their seals of office." The severance payments for the 125 ministers in the Com-

mons and the Lords will run into several hundred thousand pounds. Cabinet minisaltogether will also receive further compensation. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade who has a marginal seat, will receive his full £43,000 MPs salary, plus the El5,000 ministerial severance pay, if he loses. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the retiring North-ern Ireland Secretary, will be entitled to a similar amount. But Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, will receive only half his MP's salary as a

payoff if he loses his marginal

passengers, mainly tourists, and 5,500 cars.



Farmers snub Hogg offer

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

THE Agriculture Minister, Douglas Hogg, failed to satisfy farmers yesterday despite offers of extra cash and a pledge to put renewed pressure on the European Union to lift the ban on British beef. Speaking at the annual meeting of the National Farm-Certain fees apply. American Express Services Europe Limited, Reg. Office, Portland House, 1 Stay Place, London SWIE 58Z, Reg. No. 1833139. MR4

summit in Florence.

"We have performed our part of the bargain", he said. It is now for the Europeans to ers' Union in London, Mr honour theirs." But he admit-Hogg said the selective cull of ted there was unlikely to be a

cattle at risk of developing swift resumption of beef mad cow disease would begin exports.
Sir David Naish, the NFU later this month, completing the conditions for easing the embargo set at last June's EU

president, criticised Mr Hogg over the level of compensation. Government penny-pinching was "fuelling the contempt" of farmers, he said. Farmers are not being greedy, they just want proper and

Teacher claims sex bias after moral crusade cost her job

AN English teacher who has three children by different fathers was forced to resign from a Roman Catholic school after affairs with the science master and a teenage former pupil, an industrial tribu-

nai was told yesterday. Shairon Rogers, 35, Bollington, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, says she was hounded from St Peter and Paul's High School, a mixed comprehensive in Widnes, after the headmaster "ranted and raved" about her "suspect morals". She is claiming compensation from the school governors for sexual discrimination and constructive dismissal from her post, teaching English and media studies.

Miss Rogers, described as an atheist, attended the hearing in Liverpool with her lover, Frank Youds, a former pupil at the school and the father of her daughter Chloe, who was born last March. The couple met at a nightclub when he was aged 16 and had left school to do his A levels at a sixth-form college. She became a mother for the first time by a husband whom she has since divorced. Her second child, Eva, now two, was the result of a short affair with Russell Mason, the science master.

Miss Rogers told the tribunal that headmaster Mike Glover had ranted and raved about her suspect morals. "He said he had heard a rumour about my relationship with a former pupil and he told me 'If you are going to play, play away



Mike Glover, said to have "ranted and raved"

from home. He said it was not suitable behaviour for a teacher at

a Catholic school."

Her position within the school grew increasingly difficult, she said. She had an inkling of what was to come when she wrote a letter would be returning from her maternity leave and did not receive

a reply.

The teacher who had been assigned to her classes during the leave told her on the telephone that she had been instructed to carry on teaching the classes beyond the expected return date. Miss Roger

given impossible tasks to do. As punishment I was made to

my white tee-shirt, gyro skirt, socks and pumps, which be-

came transparent when wet. I

was asked questions like, 'Are you cold, because your nipples

Miss Morris, who had

joined the service at 17, had

taken a paracejamoj overdose and been discharged from the

Navy as "temperamentally unsuitable" in 1995. "It broke

my heart to leave the Navy. It was all I ever wanted to do."

yesterday. A spokesman for the Royal Navy declined to

comment on the case until it

was completed, but said: "All complaints are taken very seriously and are fully

The Ministry of Defence admitted liability in the case

back at school, Barbara Lloyd-Jones, her department head, warned her that Mr Glover was compiling a dossier about her. She said that a meeting with him would be a "horrible experience" and that

if I was sacked I would not get another job in teaching.

The deputy headmaster also urged Miss Rogers to resign in the school's best interests. Instead of her old duties she was given a revised timetable that, in effect, meant she was spending her time covering for absent colleagues.

"This was not a satisfying experience," Miss Rogers said. "I wanted to teach my subjects, which I love, I did not want to be involved in babysitting. It was at this time I felt I had no alternative but to resign as I did not need the stress.

"I had a young baby of nine weeks and I was still breastfeeding her. I just caved in. The only way could keep my sanity was to resign. I was told I was going to be sacked and I had no alternative."

In the tribunal Miss Rogers was accused by Michael Chambers, counsel for Cheshire County Council, of going out of her way to court publicity. She was no "fainting violet", he said.

Miss Rogers replied: "I believe I have got every right to stand up and speak out about what has happened to me. I was a strong confident woman before all this happened. I feel I am making a stand for women's rights in Catho-

The hearing continues.



Shairon Rogers yesterday: she claims she is making a stand for women's rights at Catholic schools

Female GP fondled woman, **GMC** told

BY AUDREY MAGEE

A FEMALE GP indecently assaulted a woman patient and asked her improper questions about her sexual relations, a General Medical Council hearing was told yesterday.

Dr Christine Keown, 46, alleged-ly "touched up" the 28-year-old patient as she lay on the doctor's couch, naked from the waist down,

during a smear test in March 1995. The patient, known only as Miss A, had collapsed during a visit to her parent's home in the Midlands. She was diagnosed as suffering from endometriosis, a gynaecologi-cal disorder in which the lining of

the womb collapses. Miss A, a science graduate of Nottingham University, was referred by Dr Keown to the Royal Surrey County Hospital, where she underwent laser treatment in 1994. Miss A alleges that Dr Keown had

been unsympathetic. Miss A had later attended an appointment at the clinic for a smear test. She alleges that while she was on the couch Dr Keown fondled her intimately. Miss A said: It really made me feel sick and I did not understand why it was necessary. She said Dr Keown asked her questions about her sexual relationships and about her father, implying that she might

have been abused by him. Nicola Davies, QC, for Dr Keown, suggested Miss A had confused the doctor's actions: she was carrying out an internal examination to establish the state of Miss A's wornb lining. Dr Keown denies professional misconduct. The hearing continues.

Wren wins sexual harassment case against ministry

... By Dareh Gregorian

A FORMER Wren won her woman in the gym and I was claim of sexual discrimination and constructive dismissal against the Ministry of De, jump in the swimming pool in

fence yesterday.

The amount of compensation to be awarded to Lesley
Morris, who said she had
suffered four years of constant colleagues, will be decided today. Ms Morris, 23, is seeking £150,000.

After the decision by an industrial tribunal in Manchester, she hugged her flance, David McCullough, 25, and punched the air with delight. "This is the happiest day of my life," she said. "I'm delighted with the outcome, but I'm still affected by what happened. I still have panic attacks and

don't sleep very well."
She added: "It's been a hell of an ordeal, but I'm glad I did it. I proved what I set out to do. and hopefully all the other girls that have gone through, and are still going through what I did, may take the example and speak out."

Sec. 38

Miss Morris, who lives in Shotton, Flintshire, and works in a factory, had told the tribunal of numerous "horrific" incidents of sexual harassment. They included having her breasts grabbed and being forced to mimic oral sex. She said the male sailors constantly insulted the Wrens.

Her ambition had been to become a physical training instructor. She said that she had gone to HMS Raleigh at Torpoint, Comwall, to work on rope dimbing and pole vaulting. "I was the only



By RICHARD FORD

THE moors murderer Myra Hindley said yesterday that she would commute to fight for her release from prison. She insisted that she was no risk to the public and that while in prison she had addressed her

offending behaviour.
Hindley, 54, was days ago in Durham prison that Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, had con-firmed the "whole life" sentence imposed on her in 1990. Her case is reviewed every five years but it is unlikely that any Home Secretary in the near future would risk the public controversy involved in rec-

ommending that she be freed. Her lawyers are consider-ing a High Court challenge to Mr Howard's decision and in a letter read out on Talk

Radio, Hindley acknowledged the "heinousness" of her crimes. She was jailed in 1966 for the murders of Lesley Ann Downey, 10, and Edward Evans, 17. In 1987 she admirted to the murders of Keith Bennett, 12, and Pauline Reade, 16.

Hindley wrote: "What I was involved in is etched into my heart and mind - my conscience will follow me to my dying day." She expressed remorse for her crimes but insisted that the time had come when it would be safe to release her. "If I could undo what I have done I would be desperate to do so. I have done all that is in my power to make amends but I know that this is no consolation to the victims'











For sale: errant curate's scandalous house of love

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

 ONE of the most scandalous addresses of the Victorian age is up for sale, 150 years after it was built as a temple of love by an errant cleric.

Barford Gables in Somerset was known as "The Abode of Love" when the Rev Henry Prince declared himself the new Messiah and installed a bevy of "soul brides" there. He built the nine-bedroom

bouse in 1849, in the village of Spaxton near Bridgwater, as headquarters for his quasireligious order, but news soon E leaked out of sexual ceremonies taking place on a billiards table he used as an al-tar. Mr Prince, an ordained Anglican clergyman who was curate of Charlinch, Somersei, was defrocked after he

claimed to be the Son of God. In 1856, Prince was said to have deflowered a virgin on the table, watched by an attentive audience including his wife and the girl's mother. while solemn organ music

played in the background. When the girl became pregnant, Prince claimed Satan was responsible.

Surprisingly, the renegade former clergyman was popular with locals. He often ventured out in a coach and four, with outriders blowing trumpets to proclaim the Messiah's approach.

Despite his self-proclaimed immortality, in 1899 he died, aged 88. His distranght disciples buried him upright in the ganden to make his ascension easier. They waited in vain for his resurrection. After 50 years of waiting

they turned to another dergyman, John Smyth-Piggott, who ran a London "church" built by Prince to attract new disciples. Arriving in Somerset, he found the charms of the original "Agapemonites" were fading, so he kicked them out and recruited fresh talent. A journalist who infil-

trated the Abode of Love in

1910 claimed there were 100 women living there, including the chief "soul bride" who bore three children named Power, Glory and Hallelujah. Smyth-Piggott was then

himself defrocked, but antics

continued at the temple until his death in 1927. The soul brides buried their second Messiah beside Henry Prince, but this time there was no search for a replacement. They stayed on and in later years the temple resembled a rest home more than than a sex-driven religious cult. The last of the "soul brides" sold up in 1958. Until recently the house was run as a nursing

Tim Bennett, of estate agents Gribble, Booth and Taylor in Taunton, which is selling the house for £157,000. said: "I don't think it will be on our books for very long. It is a fine house in its own right but when people hear of its history their ears prick up."

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Former PoWs join Japanese for Burma memorial services

Ry MICHARI EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH and Japanese war veterans are to visit cemeteries in Burma together in a historic gesture of reconciliation. The 34 former soldiers, nine

British and 25 Japanese, will attend a series of joint services to commemorate those who died in Burma — 37,000 Commonwealth soldiers and 190,000 Japanese. The veterans, representing the Burma Campaign Fellowship Group from Britain and the All Burma Veterans Association of Japan, will meet this weekend at the start of a 12-day trip.

The Government recently rejected an appeal by former prisoners of war for support in seeking compensation from Japan for their ill-treatment during the Second World War. Yesterday members of the Japanese Labour Camps Survivors Association voiced anger at the trip by former British Burma campaign soldiers. Bill Holtham, chairman of the association, said: "If these veterans want to behave

like brothers in arms, let them do it but I have no intention of forgiving or forgetting."

Mr Holtham, who was a PoW for three and a half years, added: "We don't go in for socialising with the Japanese and we don't intend to join hands with them."

Mr Holtham has written to

Jeremy Hanley, the Foreign Office minister, after his announcement in the Commons that the Government would not put pressure on Japan to give compensation to the PoWs. Mr Holtham said he had reminded Mr Hanley that there was no statute of limitations covering crimes against humanity. "All the compensation we ever received was £76.50 each after the peace agreement signed in San Francisco." The association, which represents 9,000 men and women, has sought legal advice to claim £14,000 for

Major Philip Malins, of the Jurma Campaign Fellowship Group, which has about 100 members, said yesterday that he had every sympathy for the PoWs but that it was time for reconciliation.

Major Malins, 71, who

fought in Burma with the Royal Indian Army Service Corps of the 20th Indian Division, said the joint services represented the culmination of the group's efforts for reconciliation, begun in 1989. Major Malins who has not returned to Burma since the war, said: "For the first time the British and Japanese former enemies will come together on Burmese soil."

Masao Hirakabo, a Japanese

nese veteran who lives in Britain, and the only Japanese member of the Burma Campaign Fellowship Group, said: "My promise to the dead was to work for reconciliation." Major Malins will be presenting Burma plaques to the British and Japanese ambas-

sadors in Rangoon on Friday

Tracie Andrews, charged with murdering her fiance, remained silent at the appeal

Woman appeals for road-rage witnesses

By JOANNA BALS

LAWYERS defending a woman charged with murdering her fiance after she blamed "road-rage" attackers appealed yesterday for information on new leads they say they have uncovered.

Tracie Andrews, who was advised to stay silent for legal reasons, attended a press conference at which Pai Alexander, clerk to her solicitor. Tim Robinson, said that a woman social worker had been the victim of a similar attempt to force her off the road. A fat male passenger in the car bore a "remarkable likeness" to the man who Miss Andrews said stabbed her fiancé 40 times on December 1 as they drove home to Alvechurch, Hereford and Worcester.

Two other witnesses had heard "two cars travelling at very high speed through a village at the time, very close to the murder scene".

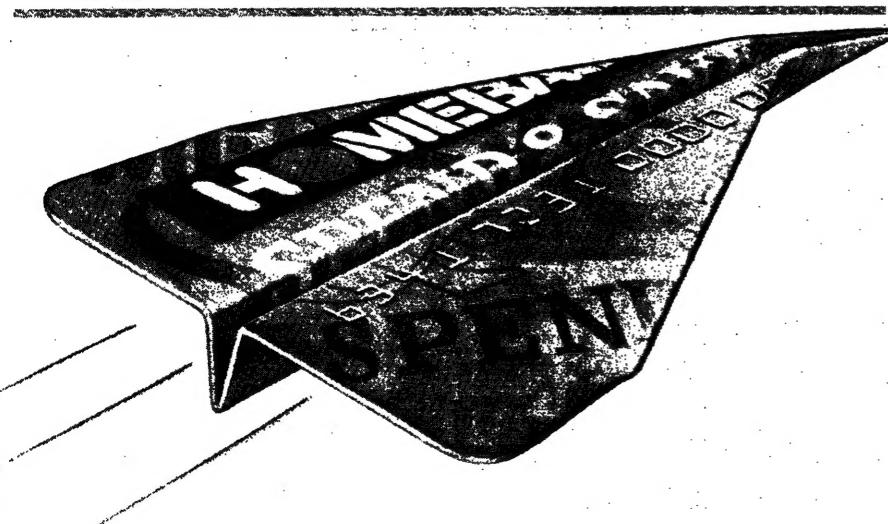
Detective Superintendent Ian Johnston, of West Mercia police, said that the information would not significantly after his investigation.

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Prince's plan for Christian village is turned down

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

THE Prince of Wales's dream of a "Christian village" on the bank of the Thames to celebrate the year 2000 was dashed yesterday when the Millennium Commission rejected the idea.

Instead of a 3,500-seat church, the site next to the old Battersea power station is likely to become an "Autodome" celebrating the history of the motor car.

The Millennium Commissioners refused to shortlist an application for £50 million towards the Christian village, although they looked more favourably on a £10 million bid by Hindus for a multicultural centre in Neasden. The stated reason was that the Christian project, backed by Anglican, Catholic and Methodist leaders, was "not as distinctive as others".

Ken Costa, the vice-chairman of SBC Warburg merchant bankers, who had the idea of building a church larger than St Paul's Cathedral or Westminster Abbey, was astonished. "It beggars

Bottomley wants minute of silence

THE millennium should be greeted not by raucous jubilation but by a silence similar to Remembrance Day, according to Virginia Bottomley (Damian Whitworth writes).

a time for reflection, the National Heritage Secretary will tell community leaders meeting in Chelsea today. She believes the millennium should be a period of spiritual regeneration for all faiths. She said yesterday that it

She said yesterday that it was hoped 2000 would be marked by an additional Bank Holiday — June 12 appeared most favourable.

belief," he said. "It is a unique project. The concentration on materialist projects is a sadness and misses the changing mood of this generation."

He queried why the commissioners had agreed to shortlist a £25 million bid by the Hinduja Foundation for a multi-cultural centre in Peterborough. They have also said they may give a £10 million grant to the Swaminarayan Hindu Mission in Neasden for a centre celebrating different world cultures.

ent world cultures.

Secular projects supported by the commissioners include 100 new British water fountains and troughs, and a "national pondlife centre" in Liverpool.

Mark Elsdon-Dew, of Holy Trinity, Brompton, the Anglican church where Mr Costa is a warden, said: "We are disappointed that so few Christian projects are being supported to celebrate the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of Christ."

£.

Another major idea rejected is the National Biblical Heritage Centre's request for 66 million for a multimedia centre in York based on the Bible. Christians are suspicious that the church projects which have won support tend to be interfaithy Christian.

The Prince of Wales's

The Prince of Wales's designers had almost completed a plan for the "super-church", using traditional materials to create spires and domes. "It is very rich and uplifting and would be a wonderful ornament to that part of the river," said Brian Hanson, director of the Prince's Projects Office.

☐ The commission rejected an application from the museum at Bletchley Park. The museum had hoped to use £8 min from of lottery money to expand and tell the full story of wartime intelligence and how the German radio codes were

Resort fears prison ship will hit tourism

By Richard Ford and Ian Murray

PLANS to moor a prison ship off Dorset were in disarray last night after councillors protested that it would spoil the view of Portland harbour and upset tourists.

The setback for the Prison

Service came only five days after it announced that it had bought the ship, Resolution, and would float it across the Atlantic. Prison Service officials had previously been advised by local planning officials that they would win approval to moor the vessel in the former Navy docks at Portland.

The vessel, to house 400 low-risk prisoners for three years, was bought for over £4 million. It is currently undergoing repairs near New York before being shipped across the Atlantic aboard a huge barge. But first a berth

must be found.

Yesterday's opposition by
Weymouth and Portland planning committee is likely to be
backed by a full council meeting today. Roy Gainey, leader

p of the Labour group on the y hung council, said: "It is s bound to have a serious detriil mental effect on the holiday industry of the borough."

The Prison Service has already begun considering other moorings. Under planning law, it could still moor the ship in the harbour, but it does not want to override strong local opposition. The Department of the Environment is likely to arbitrate.



Villagers are shocked by death of 'good neighbour'

AND CAROL MIDGLEY

SHOCKED families in the Kentish village of Densole yesterday helped to piece together the events that ended in a fatal struggle between a bank manager's wife and a quiet, reserved neighbour.

It emerged that David Stuchbery, who was killed by a single stab wound to the heart, had minutes earlier called at the home of another woman in the village but she had refused to let him in.

Mr Stuchbery, 49, left his home at about 8am, clutching a heavy carrier bag. He wan-dered about the village and at 8.50am knocked at the house of Caroline Pearson, six doors from his home.

Ms Pearson said: "I opened my window and he asked me if my husband was at home. My dogs started to bark and he left as I would not open the door. Thank God I didn't know him or I might have let



A policeman on guard yesterday outside the house where David Stuchbery was killed in a struggle

that he was invited into the

hallway, where he produced a

lowed in which furniture and

crockery was smashed before

the woman, who is 5ft 4in, is

Stuchbery. She ran to a next-

door neighbour and the police

Stuchbery, who worked for a cleaning company, arrived at the home of a bank manager and his wife. She had just returned from taking their two sons, aged 6 and 9, to school in a neighbouring village. Her husband had left for work in nearby Folkestone.

The woman knew Mr afterwards Mr Stuchbery and police believe

Mr Snichbery who had died. One neighbour said: "He would not say boo to a goose."
Another said: "He seemed very reserved. You couldn't wish to meet a nicer man, We can't believe it; it is such a terrible tragedy."

He had lived in the village for at least 14 years with his wife Linda, headmistress at a

primary school, and their eenage daughter. The injured woman's husband, who is a parish council-lor, was at his wife's bedside

yesterday. His wife, who supplemented the family income by selling cosmetics from home, was described as wellliked although shy. Christine Reeve, 50, who passed on her Avon customers to her about five years ago, said: "She is a very nice woman. I also knew Mr Stuchbery. He was one of

Len Fry, 65, a villager, said: "We're all shocked. This is a friendly little community and



Linda Stuchbery speaking about her husband outside their home yesterday

mas cards." His wife, Rita, 63, added: "She's an attractive woman and very friendly."

Detective Chief Inspector Chris Sparks, who is leading the inquiry, said: "There is no suggestion that there was a relationship between this man straightforward business." He said that the woman had been

he refused to speculate on a process because the woman is

Police emphasised that the woman was not under arrest. It is understood that her husband arranged for a solici-tor to attend the hospital and advise the couple. A police spokesman said: "We are still waiting to get a full statement from her but we have spoken

ery traumatised.

She has been involved in a particularly unpleasant inci-dent and we are having to tread very carefully. She is not under arrest. It is taking a while because her welfare needs are as important as our inquiries."

The couple's sons are being

Jobcentres told not to advertise 'sex work'

banned from advertising activities associated with sex, it

was disclosed yesterday. The revised guidelines, drawn up after complaints that people were being sent for interviews with the "modelling and personal services sector", state: "The Employment Service is not willing to handle vacancies associated with the sex 'industry', or which involve personal services of a

sexual nature." The guidelines were dis-closed in a letter from Leigh Lewis, the head of the Employment Service, to Helen Jackson, Labour MP for Sheffield Hillsborough, who had com-plained to Gillian Shephard, the Employment Secretary, after a constituent had been

sent to an escort agency.

Labour claimed yesterday that loopholes in the new rules meant unemployed people could still be sent for jobs as typists and security staff with such organisations. The Employment Service insisted that if vacancies were "involved with the sex industry, they will not be accepted, full stop".

rince's plan hristian vill s turned do

Fair Lady deal boosts royalties for Shaw estate

ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE settlement of a dispute over royalties from My Fair Lady will benefit the three main beneficiaries of George Bernard Shaw's estate by more than £1 million. The British Museum, the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts and the National Gallery of Ireland will divide some \$2 million (E1.2 million) from CBS, the American broadcast-

ing organisation.
The Irish dramatist died in 1950, naming the three institutions in his will, and they have each received several million pounds in royalty payments. The legal dispute centred on worldwide payments on "all forms of exploitation" of My.

Shaw's Pygmalion, written in 1913, inspired the Lerner and Loewe stage musical, which opened on Broadway in 1956, and the 1964 Oscarwinning film starring. Rex Harrison and Audrey

The royalties have proved so lucrative that the Dublin gallery, which Shaw visited regularly as a young man, has used them to purchase paintings by Goya, Fragonard, Renoir, Reynolds, Pissarro and Jack Yeats. Shaw noted that it was to the gallery that he owed "much of the only real education I ever got as a boy in Eire". The gallery £150,000 a year

Shaw included the British Museum among the benefi-



Shaw: his play earned

ciaries because he was a regular reader in the British Library. He served on the council of Rada from 1911 to

Writing in The Times in 992. Michael Holroyd more than 56 million in the 1990s. "Everything was to change on March 15, 1956, when My Fair Lady opened on Broadway with Rex Harrison and Julie Andrews ... My Fair Lady was to transform

the trustees of the estate, John Martin, QC, said that "diffiwhich is owned by Sony. over



Audrey Hepburn played Eliza Doolittle in the 1964 film

nip will hillie, come voted to take control from members, as incorrectly reported on February I. A manigement committee, newly established by Academicians to strengthen efficiency, is in fact a sub-committee of the RA's council (the governing body comprised solely of Academicians), which mains sovereign.

Mr Dominic Lawrence Byrne consultant gynaecologist at the Royal Comwall Hospital. Dr Dominic Byrne, one of three doctors warned by the General Medical Council teenage girl in Stobhill Hospital, near Glasgow, in 1993 February 4).

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£60,000 for woman who lost child in smear-test blunder

BY EMMA WILKINS

A WOMAN who lost her unborn child after medical staff failed to diagnose cervical cancer in a routine smear test was awarded £60,000 damages at the High Court in London yesterday. Judith Thurman, 33, who

has a six-year-old son, Joseph, was praised by Judge Hedley for the remarkable bravery she had shown in fighting the cancer, which left her unable to have more children.

Mrs Thurman, from Christchurch, New Zealand, underwent a routine smear test in 1988 when she was living in Wiltshire with her husband. who is English. A pathologist at Salisbury Infirmary - now closed - failed to spot abnormalities and the cancer developed untreated for four years. Further tests on uterine tissue in 1991 also failed to detect cancer, the court was told.

When the advanced stages of the disease were finally diagnosed in June 1992 in New Zealand. Mrs Thurman was pregnant with a much-wanted econd child. "The medical advice was uncompromising - the child must be aborted or

her life lost," the judge said. Mrs Thurman underwent a hysterectomy followed by months of painful radiotherapy. including internal radiation treament. Her chances of surviving are good if she remains clear of cancer until the summer — five years after the hysterectomy.

Awarding the sum against

authority, the judge said Mrs Thurman's courage and resilience were remarkable. "The experience of being a judge can make one cynical about fellow human beings as so much of a judge's time is taken up with the consequences of human failure and wrong-

doing.
"However, every so often one encounters a person whose courage and determbalance, I hope Mrs Thurman will not feel patronised if I say

that she is such a person." The judge added: "If ever a case demonstrated the inadequacy of money to compensate for loss, then this must be it."

The health authority, now the Salisbury Health Care NHS Trust, admitted liability but contested the amount of damages. In a statement read to the court, it apologised to Mrs Thurman and said procedures had been introduced to prevent similar blunders.

It added that it was recognised by the appropriate scien-tific authorities that the screening of smears could not be 100 per cent effective.

The damages were awarded on a provisional basis, on the assumption that Mrs Thurman is completely cured. But the judgment left open the prospect of further damages if the disease recurred, or connected problems of osteoporosis or impaired urinary function materialised.

After the hearing, Mrs Thurman, who works as an

electoral agent for a New Zealand MP, said: "I am totally satisfied. The biggest factor for me was that they admitted they'd made a mistake and have put measures in place to stop it happening to "It has been very traumatic having to relive the experi-ences of the past eight years in court, but it has been worth it I am planning to have a glass of champagne later to cele-

Mrs Thurman said some of the money would be invested to secure the future of her son. 'He often says 'Mummy, why can't I have a brother or a sister? and I say it is because he is very special and mummy just can't have any more babies. We try not to dwell on it and he is a very normal. active little boy." she said.

Ms Thurman earlier told the court that she still had occasional bad days, especialwhen friends had babies. Mrs Thurman, whose father is a farmer, is now separated from her husband. She paid tribute to the "fantastic support" given by her parents and boyfriend Randy Anderson, a computer programmer.

The court was told that Mrs Thurman had impressed doctors with her courage in fighting cancer. Apart from the trauma of the decision to abort her second child, Mrs Thurman suffered scarring and internal deformities which have affected her sex life, the judge said.



Judith Thurman with her boyfriend Randy Anderson at the High Court yesterday

Lives put at risk by sick doctors who soldier on

are invulnerable to illness are putting patients at risk by failing to seek medical help when they need it. Fatal errors tors, according to a study th blames medical training for instilling the stiff upper lip

The increasing demands of patients also lead some docfors to deny that they are ill and to continue working when their judgment is impaired. according to the report by Professor Walter Holland and colleagues in the Department of Public Health at St Thomas's Hospital, London.

"Without any question, patients are being put at risk. Doctors believe they are there to serve other people. There is no reason why they should be ill. Professor Holland said. He cited the case of Dr Carol Starkie, a pathologist in

Doctors should be given more support to encourage them to admit when they are ill and to banish the profession's stiff upper lip attitude, Jeremy Laurance reports

Birmingham, who misdiag-nosed 42 cases of cancer in 1992-93 after developing multi-ple sclerosis. Dr Starkie apologised for the errors after telling officials of her illness

and seeking early retirement. The study, conducted in three health districts, disclosed similar incidents. One doctor confessed that, while depressed, he had given the wrong advice to a psychiatric patient who later committed suicide. Other cases involved sick doctors in casualty departments giving wrong drugs or sending patients home in error. Only when the mistakes

had been made were the doc-tors told to take time off.

The report says: "Doctors do not seek help because of the stigma of illness, peer pressure and professional loyalty, attitudes of denial learnt in medical training and lack of insight into personal illness. As a result, their health problems, if addressed at all, are not addressed at an early stage and any help given is informal."

A second part of the study, this time conducted in eight districts, found that doctors comparable group of man-

gement consultants but reacted to them differently. The doctors were less likely to take time off or to consider themselves ill but when they did, they were absent longer. The mete ate doctors to keep working, especially GPs. It is important to realise you may be ill like anvone else and when you are ill for God's sake get treat-ment," Professor Holland said.

The problem was compounded by unsympathetic colleagues. A GP told the researchers that while in hospital he had been shouted at on the telephone by his partners, who were worried about the practice losing patients. Another who contracted glandular fever said his colleagues had told him he would have to "pay back" all the on-call cover they had provided for him. sor Holland com-

plained that the Health De-



Starkie made errors

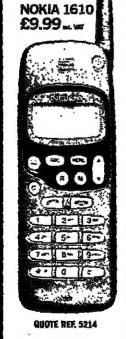
after MS diagnosis partment was not providing sufficient support for doctors. The Health Department had an occupational health policy for doctors but there were too few occupational health physicians to cope, he said, and most doctors were suspicious of them because of past The Health Department says the problems have got to be addressed through the occunational health service but they don't do anything about

The report, published by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, calls for locum cover to be provided in every health district to allow sick doctors to

About two thirds of doctors who take sick leave are suffering from psychiatric prob-iems, and the report says treatment should be offered outside the district where they work to save them embarrassment and to make them more inclined to seek help.

☐ Protecting and promoting doctors health, Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust (59 Cavendish Street, London WIM TRD: ES

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Why brains bother with pursuit of the trivial

By NIGEL HAWKES

SCIENTISTS have explained why some people rememher where they were when they heard that President Kennedy had been shot. A mechanism designed to make important memories stick also sweeps up circum-stantial details — such as what one was wearing - and makes them stick, too. Memory is formed by

changes in the synapses, the links through which the brain cells communicate with each other. A pattern of synaptic change represents the memory of the experi-ence. But this memory soon disappears unless made permanent by a process called long-term potentiation.
Experiments by Dr Richard Morris, of the University

of Edinburgh, and his German colleague Dr Uwe Frey. have shown that the process strengthens the trivial along with the significant, they report in Nature. They stimu-lated the synapses electrically to create "memories", and observed that proteins were synthesised by the brain cells as a result. They showed that these proteins, which cement memories permanently, af-

An event memorable enough to be permanently stored will cause irrelevant details to be remembered as well. Normally, the memory of a room, for example, would last a few hours: once locked in place by the wave of protein produced by a memorable event occurring there, it can remain for ever.

fected all the synapses.

North Sea cod stocks gone in two years, say scientists

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

COD could be commercially unviable in the North Sea in as little as two years, scientists said yesterday.

A research team, led by Robin Cook from the Scottish Office's marine laboratory in Aberdeen, found that up to 60 per cent of the fishable cod population was removed from the North Sea each year - an unsustainable rate.

Fishermen's leaders in Scotland, however, dismissed the research. Tom Hay, chairman of the breakaway Fishermen's Association, said scientists had been issuing the same gloomy message for years: Fishermen coming back from sea say there is more fish in the sea than ever before."

The scientists say in the journal Nature that the size of

the spawning stock has fallen from an estimated 350,000 tonnes in the late 1960s to about 75.000 tonnes. Even if fishing was reduced to a sustainable level, stocks would remain at risk. "Without a substantial reduction in the rate of fishing, the North Sea cod stock may well collapse," they say.

One of the authors, Alan Sinclair of the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans, said yesterday: "If for two years in a row the rate of recruitment of young fish falls. then there will be very little cod left in the North Sea." He likened the plight of North Sea cod to that of the once plentiful Newfoundland stock, which collapsed "very quickly" in the early 1990s. The international

Council for the Exploration of the Seas, which advises the European Commission and fisheries ministers, has recommended that fishing rates be reduced sharply. The re-searchers support the council's call.

However, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and foods disputes claims that the fishery is in imminent danger of crashing. The latest esti-mates were that 350 million cod aged one year or older were in the North Sea, it said

The time to take the last cod may be many years off," a spokesman said. "However, we cannot dismiss the idea that in the long term North Sea cod may be unable to withstand current fishing levels."

Mr Hyman Berger: an apology

Mr Hyman Berger, a retired solicitors' clerk, over an article published on April 12 last

The article, written by Bernard Levin. was headed "Deliver us from hatred" and appeared below a large car-toon, depicting two old men sitting in wheelchairs fighting each other with walking sticks in a graveyard.

Mr Barjinder Sahota, for Mr Berger, said: "The article was a general treatise on hatred and how allconsuming and undesirable an emotion it was. It went to some lengths about the case of Maurice Berger who, in February 1996, at the age of 75, was given

THE TIMES apologised in a 30-month suspended prison the High Court yesterday to sentence for assaulting his brother. Hyman (who was then 81).

"However, what the article failed to distinguish was that Hyman was a victim in the assault and does not himself bear any hatred towards his brother. It was therefore inaccurate to associate whatever emotions motivated Maurice to attack his brother as being felt by Hyman, and they were both quite wrongly 'tarred with the same brush'.

The defendants accept that Hyman does not hate his brother and unreservedly withdraw any suggestion that Hyman bears or shelters any of the characteristics associated with someone who hates his brother. Although it was

when the article was published. Hyman had written to the court to ask for leniency in sentencing the brother who had attacked him with a metal. bar. This may have contributed to the judge giving a suspended sentence to Maurice as opposed to a custodial

Mr Sahota said the defendants apologised to Mr Hyman Berger for the real hurt and embarrassment that the article caused and had agreed to pay him substantial damages plus his legal costs.
Miss Patricia Burge, for The Times, and Bernard Levin, said they accepted everything which had been said on Mr.

Berger's behalf and endorsed

the apology.

Sporting students swap side step for two step

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

CAMBRIDGE college has appointed a dancer in residence to improve the performance of its rugby thallers and oursmen. Sara Matthews has been coaching undergraduates in modern steps and routines at the invitation of the new president of Queens, Lard Entwell.

The Labour peer and conomist, governor of the Contemporary Dance Trust, sees no contradiction in listing his recreations in Who's Who as classical and

contemporary dance and Rugby Union football.

Ms Matthews. 31, has been invited to give two weeks of free classes. If she can encourage enough members of the sports clubs to dance as a way of improving fitness, a permanent dance coach may be em-ployed Queen's founded in 1448, has a high proportion of students from state schools and is regarded as one of the less sporty

colleges.
Its old boys include the scholar Erasmus, the writer Stephen Fry, and Mike Foales, the first Briton in

space.
The college received a E1,000 grant from the Peter Hamlyn Foundation, which supports education and the erts. The college's application stated: "Cambridge is richly endowed in music and drains but there is no

dance in the university."
The grant would help to redress the balance."
Lord Eatwell said: "This short residence is in the nature of a feasibility study. to assess the demand for the highest quality of dance teaching within the miner sity. If the experiment

temporary dancer who has

graphed with the Rambert dance company."

Ms Maithean said: "We are talking to the leaders of the ragby dab at the mosome special sessions with them, but one or two of them are already starting to drift into the normal

"I'm trying to get them to come to the beginners' classes, but it all has to fit in with their training. We have a variety of lessons now because there are some quite experienced dancers and some complete beginners and all sorts in

Steven Sander, 19, a soccer player who has started dancing said: "We have football matches but we don't have training sessions: so this will improve my agility and make me more

supple." Ben Gowrie, 21, a medical student and member of the bost club, said: "I want to improve my leg muscles and become more agile and I think dance will bein." withing you want to w



Ronnie Scott depressed

Jazzman died after incautious overdose

The jazz club owner Ronnie Scott died of an "incautious overdose" of prescribed sleep-ing tablets mixed with alcohol. a coroner decided yesterday.

Dr Paul Knapman recorded a verdict of misadvanture after Dr Philip Hopkins, Mr Scott's GP, said he did not believe the 69-year-old musician had killed himself, even though he had been depressed particularly by problems with his teeth, which prevented him playing the saxophone. He was found at his home in Chelsea on December 23.

Dail resignation

The former Irish government minister Pat Gallagher is to stand down from the Dail at this year's general election. Mr Gallagher, 48, of Fianna Fail, a Co Donegal representative for 16 years, wants to concentrate on his duties as a member of the European

Youth convicted

Terence Rooney, 18, of Liverpool, was jailed for life at Stafford Crown Court for the mur-der of Christopher Greena-way, 16, in Stoke Heath Young Offenders' Institution, Shrop-shire, in 1995. He was con-victed of attempting to murder John Jones at another institution. He demied both charges.

Bianc rejection

Raymond blanc's plans for major extensions at Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons, his awardwinning hotel and restaurant at Great Milton, were rejected by South Oxfordshire District Council. Proposals included larger kitchens and staff quarters, 14 extra bedrooms, a spa

and a gymnasium. Out of the desert

Ezio, the obscure rock band whose record Cancel Today was chosen by Tony Blair as one of his Desert Island Discs, has signed a deal with MCA to make five allowns. The Labour leader expressed delight that the Cambridgeshire bands music was to become available to a wider audience.

There's the rub

Eight women police officers in South Wales are being issued with £350 tailored bulletproof vests because standard armour is causing 'jogger's nipple". Chief Inspector Bruce Clarke said: "When you are on in eight-hour shift the last ng you want to worry about

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NOTHING MOVES YOU LIKE A CITROEN

By Charles Bremner and Polly Newton

JACQUES SANTER, president of the European Commis-John Major's campaign against the social chapter, dismissing his argument as

He rejected all the main points made by Mr Major in Brussels on Tuesday, when the Prime Minister depicted the social chapter as a force for strangling the European economy and putting millions out of work. Let us stop the caricatures." Mr Santer said.

Usually emollient, he has taken an aggressive tone to-wards Mr Major over recent months as the Government has distanced itself from the rest of the European Union. Mr Major made a point in his speech of dismissing as pure myth Mr Santer's charge last December that the Government's social policy amounted to condoning Dickensian

Mr Santer said the social chapter, from which Britain has an opt-out, was not the enemy of competitivity but complementary to it. The social chapter is a platform for good industrial relations which, as experience in many member states shows, can be harmonious, mature and non-

conflictual. The social chapter is not a symbol of over-regulation. Only two pieces of legislation have been adopted and both of them are very important - the directive on parental leave and and consultation of workers." Mr Major acknowledged

that the social chapter, enshrined in the 1992 Maastricht treaty, had so far produced only those two pieces of legislation but he depicted it as a Trojan Horse for the creation of a stifling new bureaucracy. Yesterday the Commission

accompanied Mr Santer's statement with a "fact sheer" that ridiculed Mr Major's claims. There is no mass of legislation emanating from Brussels, choking businesses to death. Nothing could be further from the truth. The bulk of legislation which regulates the labour market is of national origin," it said. It added that "pay and trade union rights are specifically excluded from the social

Mr Major's speech, heralded as an attempt to win Europe over to Britain's argument, made barely a ripple on the Continent. The governing classes in Brussels and other EU states consider business with Britain to be in abeyance until after the election. The most desired result of the vote is a strong majority for either big party. This, it is deemed, would allow a Labour or Tory prime minister to act without ear of his Eurosceptic wing.

Yesterday Labour sought to dismiss the suggestion that it was committed to taking Britain into a single currency in 2002. Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, told busi-nessmen in London that the party was keeping its options

In an interview on Sunday Mr Cook appeared to suggest

that a Labour government might sign up to a single currency when it became legal tender on the Continent, provided that the system was operating successfully. He and his colleagues in the party leadership were alarmed that his comments were seen as tying Labour to a particular entry date. Mr Cook has told friends that there has been no shift in his sceptical stance on the single currency.

In a speech to the Centre for European Reform, he repeated his view that in the long run it would become increasingly difficult for Britain to stay out if the single currency succeed-ed. But he added: This emphatically does not mean that abour is committed to signing up to the single currency in 2001, 2002 or 2003."

The party was keeping its options "every bit as open" for entry in those years as for the possibility of Britain joining the first wave of a single currency in 1999. He acknowledged that the decision on whether or not to join a single currency would be "a complex and difficult judgment." But Labour would take that decision on the basis of "a hardheaded assessment of economic reality", whereas the Tories would act out of "hysteria and prejudice".

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, had earlier criticised Mr Cook for implying that Britain would have to join a single currency if it was countries. It was an "absurd" position to take, he said.



John Major at the awards ceremony yesterday where he met Craig Keily, above right



You're the winner, young fan tells Major

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

JOHN MAJOR is certain that he is about win the general election and keep his job as Prime Minister. One of his youngest supporters, Craig Kelly, has told him so.

Craig, 14. from County Down, was one of 150 children honoured yesterday for their courage in overcoming illness of disability or for their efforts in their community.Mr Major handed out the Child-ren of Achievement Awards at a ceremony in Westminster. As he bent down and hugged Craig, who uses a walking frame, the boy told him: "You are doing a good job running the country. I am sure you will

After Mr Major had helped him to negotiate his way off the stage, Craig said: "I am a big fan and everyone seems to horrible to him at the moment, so I thought I would cheer him up."

Mr Major stood for over 90 minutes on the stage, flanked by entertainers and television personalities, often crouching so that he could talk to the children. He said that the awards yearbook, detailing

Political funding inquiry rejected

perary netary

POLITICAL REPORTER

AN OPPOSITION demand for a fresh investigation into how political parties are funded was easily defeated by the Government in the House of Lords last night.

Peers voted by 185 to 135, a government majority of 50, to reject a call for the issue to be looked into by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life or by a similar

Tory peers said that an inquiry was unnecessary, but Labour and Liberal Democrats said that party funding needed to be more transparent to restore public confidence in the political process. Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, the Liberal Democrat leader in the Lords, who moved the resolution, said there was a need for disclosure because criminal, semi-criminal and foreign money" found its way

The Liberal Democrats and Labour recognise the overriding public case for full disclosure even if that involves a few embarrassments, whereas the Conservative Party believes that the scale of their embarrassments is such that they must cling to secrecy until the last possible moment."

Lord Richard, the Labour leader in the Lords, said his party wanted full disclosure of donations over £5,000 and a ban on overseas and large secret donations. He described the "dubious and disreputable" way in which the Tory party raised funds, and listed several fraudsters and fugitives from justice who

had given the party money.
This carries with it an unmistakeable odour of sleaze and corruption, particularly in the light of the fact that an examination of the honours lists under the Tories illustrates a high proportion of recipients of knighthoods as being personal donors or linked to companies who have

contributed to the Tories." Lord Cranborne, the Tory leader in the Lords, rejected the charge and instead asked why Labour was so secretive about those who donated money to the "blind trust" used to fund Tony Blair's



Blair: appeal to voters

Blair fishes for compliments in Wirral walkabout

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

TONY BLAIR emphasised his appeal to the middle-class voters of Wirral South yesterday with a stage-managed walkabout. The Labour leader was kissed by a former Miss Great Britain finalist, served chips smothered in tomato ketchup to a mother and toddler and posed for photographs with firefighters.

His day on the hustings was a forerunner of what the electorate can

expect in the general election. Mr Blair's route had been painstakingly checked for potential snags and shopkeepers vetted for their affili-

ations. Nothing was left to chance. Earlier he sat in the back bar of the Cheshire Cat public house in Thornformer Tary voters considering switching to Labour. Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, said the pub name was apt

since Mr Blair "grins all the time and says nothing of any substance".

At Mr Chips, the fish shop, run by

Tony Blair, a namesake, the Labour leader took off his suit jacket and served Emma Crowe, with her children Oliver, two, and Poppy, ten and not much vinegar. Mr Blair turned to the accompanying cameras and said: "If the press would only

leave. I could make a pig of myself." Only one man managed to escape

the "good news cordon" around Mr Blair. James Perks, a perisioner, told him that Labour's policies would mean embracing the single European currency and put an end to

Afterwards Margaret Bracegirdle, 68, a former deputy head teacher and Tory voter who lives in Heswall, said: "I am definitely changing this time to Socialist. It is time we gave them a chance."

A 24-hour "rapid response" adver-

tising unit has been created by Labour to enable the party to respond to swings in public opinion and to Tory campaigns. The unit, modelled on similar initiatives in the United States, will be staffed by advertising copywriters, planners and media

Its aim is to place advertisements based on breaking news stories or urgent topical issues in the national press on the day that the papers carry editorial reports on them.

Has Labour learnt from pay policy of the 1970s? posal to freeze top people's pay is a bad omen for a Labour govern-ment It smacks of the pseudolinks, which the review bodies egalitarianism of the incomes from time to time recommend.



By Arthur Leathley

AMERICAN firms that run compulsory job-seeking schemes in the United States are planning to export their skills to Britain. Many of the firms are encouraged to enter the British employment mar-ket by bidding for government contracts that will offer them bonuses to find work for single

Pilot projects giving single parents extra help in finding work will begin next month with the American employment experts offering advice on everything from childcare and the financial benefits of working rather than claiming income support.

Among the companies bidding for the contracts are those that have operated similar schemes, including the Californian GAIN project under which claimants are compelled to take part in the scheme. However, ministers insist that the British scheme will be voluntary and that people who refuse help will not lose income support.

Under the privatised part of the Parent Plus scheme, the. companies will be paid by results if they find jobs lasting more than two months. Private companies will operate four of the 12 pilot projects beginning in April. Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, will today invite tenders for the private sector parts of the scheme, which is intended to reduce by 100,000 the number of single parents claiming income support.

policy era of the 1970s. The However, Mr Brown's prowell-off are supposed to make sacrifices to persuade others to accept low pay rises. This is just the type of empty populist gesture that Labour was sup-posed to have left behind. The Brown camp argues that he had to demonstrate, not least to Shadow Cabinet colleagues, that a Labour government would not only stay within cash limits but was also willing to take tough decisions in choosing between expenditure priorities. Labour oppositions have in the past nade wide-ranging promises to public sector unions that they have then had to fulfil in office, at considerable cost to the Treasury and the taxpayer, as in 1974-75. That, at least, has been avoided and Mr Brown has been prepared to be candid and risk unpopularity over public spending. No government can commit

itself to implementing in full the recommendations of pay review bodies. The Cabinet is today likely to agree to a phasing of the recommended rises. That is normal and should help to ensure that total pay bills remain under control But even phasing allows a gradual implementation of changes in the structure of pay, including the introduction of performance

posal goes much further. He argues that a Labour government should offer a lead, coupling fairness with tough-ness, if lower paid public sector workers are to be persuaded to accept small pay rises. But freezing the pay of senior civil servants, judges, military offices, ministers and MPs goes much further than just equality of sacrifice. A freeze would undermine the work of the review bodies and result in a narrowing of pay differentials. And after the freeze in the first year of a Labour government, there would be the usual problem of "re-entry": would a catching-up then be allowed? Or would the need for further expenditure restraint produce another freeze? Many of the public sector "top people" are any-way not paid well by private sector standards and a freeze

would increase the gap. Much will depend on what form of phasing the Government announces today. Some increases may have been implemented before election day. Later stages of phasing may be frozen. Labour Cabi net ministers would apparently be expected not to take the pay rises already approved and due in April. The big increase in MPs pay has been

MPs would be expected not to accept the further, smaller rise

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onice and Value

Financially, a freeze would be irrelevant since £20 million at most, and probably well under half that, would be saved. This is the politics of guilt and exhortation that so discredited past incomes policies. Asking judges, generals or permanent secretaries to "set an example" will not help low paid cierical staff. Instead, the proposal revives the idea of a "fair" rate of pay which stokes up envy and destructively high pay claims.

ably wanted to be conciliatory to Unison and other unions, however much it irked the First Division Association. But in the long term it is more likely to stir up public sector unions than to appease them. Labour has a fair complaint

against the tactics adopted by the Government, and it could gain in the short term, no. least by creating some dis-tance from the Tories on a populist issue, Indeed, Tony Blair told the Shadow Cabinet last night that the announcement had gone well in Wirral South. But this is the behaviour of opposition minded politicians, not of potential ministers trying to show they have learnt the lessons of past

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Jobless rise dents German hopes of monetary union

THE number of Germans on the dole has jumped to 4.6 million, dashing the Government's hope of an early recovery on the labour market and oushing the Maastricht monetary union targets farther out

The January figures show that about 450,000 Germans lost their jobs last month in one of the biggest increases of recent years. The country has the highest unemployment level since the 1930s. The main reason is the dismal state of the building industry, in the past. German building work-ers have received so-called badweather money to keep them. going when snow stops work on the sites. As part of an austerity package, that practice has been halted and employers are expected to pay 75 per cent of wages for the first 20 days of cold weather.

Companies have refused to take on the commitment and have been dismissing hundreds of thousands of workers during the winter to hire cheaper foreign workers instead. A new minimum wage law, which came into force last month, has so far failed to

The figures, from experts

associated with the Federal Labour Office, are 200,000 higher than expected. A week ago Günter Rexrodt, the Economics Minister, predicted that unemployment would average 4J million this year. That would allow Bonn to keep its public-sector deficit down to 2.9 per cent of gross domestic product, enabling it to hit the 3 per cent target set by Maastricht for membership of economic and mone-

tary union.

The figures lean heavily on expectations of a 6.5 per cent rise in German exports this year and the resumption of capital investment based on low interest rates and modest wage increases. However, the connection between better growth and much improved employment seems to be at best tenuous.

The Association of Mechanical Plant Constructors, employing 945,000 workers, said yesterday that it expected a better year, but 10,000 jobs would be cut. Other industries are reporting a similar trend. The budget cuts also mean that job-creation schemes in eastern Germany will be wound down this year.

A contracting job market is

beginning to influence the prospects for Helmut Kohl's re-election next year. A survey by Die Woche, to be published today, indicates that 55 per cent of Germans want the Chancellor to retire and only 36 per cent are in favour of his carrying on for another term. Even supporters of Herr Kohl's Christian Democratic Union are unhappy with the prospect of their leader seeking another term: 22 per cent ant a different candidate. That has fuelled rumours that he is preparing to retire as

It is clear that party managers are adjusting their cam-paign to promote the euro to take into account the strong discontent about unemploy ment. Academics at a Bonn conference of the Institute of German Economics seemed to make a considerable impact on politicians yesterday by arguing that EMU would lead to a more flexible labour

early as September.

Although all speakers were sceptical about Europe-wide wage bargaining after intro-duction of EMU, most seemed to agree that the single currency would eventually make it easier to hire workers.



Workers set up the dance floor inside Vienna's State Opera House for the opera ball tonight. The Duchess of York is to be guest of honour

Lavish ball highlights size of Austria's social gulf

AT THE cry of Alles Walzer (every-body walts) the Duchess of York will be taking to the floor of the Vienna Opera Ball tonight at one of the most troversial events in the Austrian social calendar

Outside the State Opera House, groups of balaclava-clad anarchists and radical leftwingers are ready to do battle with each other and with mounted police, in the annual protest

post-Habsburgian privilege. Inside, gossip columnists will be watching closely to see if Austrian tennis star Thomas Muster renews his friendship with Sarah Ferguson.

Austrian papers speculate that the Duchess will be paid about £35,000 for her appearance to mark the opening of the ball season. This has not been officially confirmed but the sum would clearly be in line with the bait offered to other celebrities in the past to brighten up this attempt to recapture the spirit of the Anstro-Hungarian Empire. Then, the Vienna ball was a match-making event. Now it is a debutante's ball with more than 150 couples having drilled for the past year for the opening quadrille; it is also a place for businessmen to exercise their expense accounts. Tick-

ets cost £160, a good box is £900.

But the real social gulf is apparent elsewhere in the growing resentment of ordinary Austrians about the lavish expense at a time when budgets are being sliced to meet the European monetary union target for 1997. Many

television, some will watch the giant video screens outside the opera house, others will be tossing cobblestones at the police. Above all though, there will be the nagging question of whether the recreation of the Habsburg era is

worth the extravagance. Franz Vranitzky, the outgoing Chancellor, has sensed the popular successor, Viktor Klima, contrived to arrange his first foreign visit as leader

Clinton praises 'gifted' Harriman

FROM BEN MACINITYRE IN PARIS

PAMELA HARRIMAN, the British-born American Ambassador to France, died in Paris yesterday, two days after lapsing into a coma after a

brain haemorrhage.

Members of her family. including her son, Winston Churchill, the Conservative MP for Davyhulme, had gathered at the American Hospital in Paris where Mrs Harriman, 76, died shortly before 3pm (GMT).

President Clinton, who appointed her America's Ambassador to France in 1993, was among the first to pay tribute who became a great Amerito a woman celebrated equally:: can, Mr Clinton emphasised for her political talents and her romantie past. "She was.

gifted people I have ever met.". The English society hostess

and daughter-in-law of Sir Winston Churchill who went on to become the doyenne of America's Democratic Party, collapsed on Monday night after her daily swim in the Ritz Hotel's pool. She never regained consciousness, and on Tuesday night ABC news reported that she had been aken off life-support

Describing Mrs Harriman, who adopted US citizenship in 1971, as "another immigrant his close relationship with the political activist whose Demo-

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helped to put him in the White Felix Rohatyn, the economist House. "She was a source of has also been tipped as a judgment and inspiration to candidate. Mrs Harriman inherited a me, a source of constant good

vast fortune on the death of her third husband, the Amerihumour and charm and real friendship, and we will miss her very, very much," he said. Mrs Harriman will be burcan diplomat and railroad heir Averell Harriman, but it was whiteled down by a protracted legal battle with his children. ied in the family's Arden estate, north of New York City. The funeral will be in Washington, following a Paris me-

ment late in 1995, she was left She had been expected to with an estimated \$9 million (E5.6 million), real estate worth \$12 million and a maleave France by June, but her death comes at a tense moment in Franco-US relations, jority interest in a Van Gogh painting, White Roses, accordamid disputes over Nato, Africa and the Middle East. The ing to Sally Bedell Smith, a most likely successor is Frank biographer. Wisner, a career diplomat

Flu forces Pope to miss audience

Rome: Anxiety over the Pope's health, which has been frail since his appendix operation last October, resurfaced yesterday when he can-celled his weekly audience because of flu (Richard Owen writes). "Influenza has even entered the house of the Pope," he told pilgrims in St

The Pope, 76, who had appeared unusually well this week during his meeting with Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, cantelled meetings today with José Maria Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, and Alexander Downer, the Australian Foreign Minister

Swiss banks announce £55m payout to Holocaust victims

payment is purely a humani-

tarian gesture to step beyond

what has been in the past an

extremely legalistic treatment

of the issue." He denied that it

was an acknowledgement of

guilt in the banks' dealings

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

BOWING to more than a year of international pressure. Switzerland's three largest banks announced yesterday that they would pay SwFr100 million (ESS million) to a special account for Holocaust

They stopped short, however, of setting up a compensa-tion fund. Credit Suisse, the Swiss Bank Corporation, and the Union Bank of Switzerland said that the money would be deposited in an open holding account with the Swiss National Bank. They said it would lay the foundations for a "humanitarian"

The banks found SwFr9.5 fund and be open to further million of deposits belonging payments from "other sources, including the Govern-ment and the National Bank". to mainly Jewish Holocaust victims after they were Michael Willi, a spokesman ordered to search through their accounts in 1962. Last for SBC, said the payment, to year the banks said another search had yielded SwFr39 million. Jewish groups claim that there are still billions of be made this month, was a recognition of the banks' "unhumanitarian" attitude to-wards Holocaust victims since the Second World War. "This dollars of Holocaust funds in

Swiss vaults. There was no reaction yesterday from some of Switzerland's 400 other banks. The big three admitted that they had decided to act because domestic and foreign pressure had reached breaking point.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Republicans' rising black star steals President's thunder in State of the Union address

Clinton sees deficit and education as challenges for US

TT IS rare that a President delivering his annual State of the Union address, one of the high points of Washington pageantry, risks being upstaged by the rival party's response. But President Clinton awoke yesterday to find nearly as many column inches devoted to Julius Caesar Watts, the black congressman from Oklahoma who deliv-6 We face no ered the Republican response and who is now dubbed "the

great black hope" of the Re-The battle between two of the nation's most charismatic politicians was dubbed Bubba meets the Blues". As The New Yorker said, it was a contest between a white Southerner who famously embraces all minorities and a black Southerner who es pouses conservatism with

powerful self-assurance". For all the similarities in political technique - aggressive charm and a fervent invocation of homely examples - the messages were starkly different. President Clinton argued that the greatest challenges facing America

schools and a gaping deficit less obvious but as great a threat as the Cold War had been. "We face no immediate threat, but we do have an enemy: the enemy of our time

is inaction." he said. In contrast, Mr Watts, a 39year old Baptist minister, delivered a sermon on the

threat but we do have an enemy: the enemy of our time is inaction 9

of moral values. "The strength of America is not in Washington. The strength of America is at home in lives well lived in the land of faith and family."

For Mr Clinton, the performance was a sharp improve-

ed to set out the broad challenges facing the US but which, apart from a trenchant plea for greater social harmony, unravelled into inaccurate claims about American scientific achievements and an over-optimistic view of the Internet's potential.

in Tuesday's address, Mr Clinton hit the big themes successfully, as well as announcing a list of specific main priority, and delivered a ten-point plan, which ranged from tax credits to help finance further education to read to their infants.

At the same time as calling for Republicans and Demo crats to work together. Mr Clinton pointed to three areas "unfinished business" where the White House is likely to clash with the Republican-controlled Congress: softening the harshest edges of last year's welfare legislation, reforming laws on financing election campaigns, and balancing the federal budget.

poses on government was the unspoken text running through the address: while the role Mr Clinton sketched for government sounded ambitious, in practice the extra Mr Clinton emphasised that In contrast, Mr Watts made

homespun wisdom. His per-formance clinched his image its income by 2002. The curbs as a rising star among Repubwhich the national debt imlicans. Television networks, scrambling to splice the O.J. Simpson verdict into the presidential address, made comparisons between the disgrace

of one black hero and the emergence of another. Mr Watts, a star football

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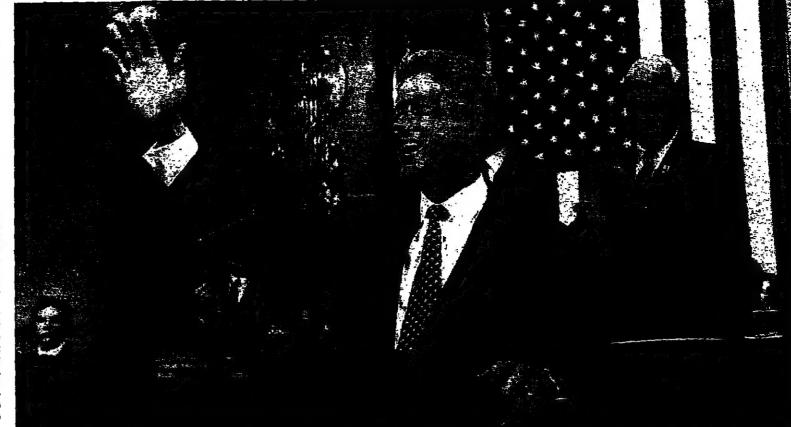
was an inspired choice for the Republicans, who suffered last year when Bob Dole, in the presidency, insisted on makng the speech and gave a lacklustre performance.

In a speech strong on per-sonal morality, Mr Watts said: I got my values from a strong family, a strong church and a strong neighbourhood." He

can heal the racial divide". Earlier, he had referred with contempt to "race-hustling poverty pimps" such as Jesse Jackson, the Democrat, and Marion Barry, Washington's Mayor. They had built careers as black politicians, he said, by keeping black people de-

gulf between the parties is wide, one side calling for active government, the other for government to pull back further. In reality, as today's budget will show, the gulf is thetorical: it is the national which currently determines what government can do.

Leading article, page 17



President Clinton waving to the House of Representatives prior to his speech yesterday. Looking on is Newt Gingrich, the Speaker

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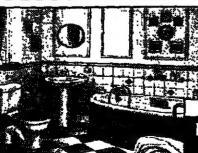








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Liz Taylor has benign

tumour New York: The actress Eliza-

beth Taylor is to have surgery to remove a brain tumour which doctors described as benign, Miss Taylor, 64, plans to enter Hollywood's Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre on February 17, the day after a long-planned "celebration of life" party to mark her birthday (Quentin Letts writes).

The actress complained of frequent headaches and underwent tests last weekend, which revealed the tumour in the left, front part of her brain. It is the latest in a long line of ailments, including back pain and respiratory difficulties.

New jail term for Alan Bond

Perth: Alan Bond, the failed Australian entrepreneur, was sentenced to four years in prison for his role in the oiggest corporate fraud in Australian history worth A\$1 billion (£466 million). He could be released on parole in

Bond, 58, already serving a three-year sentence for an earlier fraud, pleaded guilty to two charges of dishonesty last December. He stood impassively in the dock here as the sentence was passed. (Reuter)

Killers behead nine in Algeria

Paris: Suspected Muslim guerrillas decapitated nine members of a family, includ-ing women and children, in a raid south of Algiers, Algerian newspapers said. The killers stormed Benchican village, five miles from Medea, a Muslim guerrilla stronghold, and broke into the family home at night, Last week, the security forces killed 25 guerrillas in Chlef province. (Reuter)

DNA tests clear The Fugitive'

Washington: A 1954 Ohio mystery that inspired The Fugitive television series and film may have been solved. DNA tests suggest that Sam Sheppard, accused of killing his wife, Marilyn, was telling the truth when he said he struggled with an intruder who murdered her. He appealed against his murder conviction and was acquitted in a second trial (AFP)

Jackson fights plagiarism claim

Rome: Michael Jackson was mobbed by fans as he made a brief appearance in a court here to deny that a song on his Dangerous album had been plagiarised from a composition by Al Bano, an Italian pop singer (Richard Owen writes). Mr Jackson told the presiding judge that he had written Will You Be There in two hours.

US general hints at separate training for women soldiers

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

IN A rare reappraisal of feminist and liberal-influenced practices, the US Army may return to pre-1974 training routines which separate men from women.

General Dennis Reimer, the army's Chief of Staff, told a Senate committee that "gen-der-integrated" training may need to be given a long, cold look after a spate of allegations about sexual harassment in the military.

It is feared that, when theyput women alongside fighting men, the military authorities underestimated the difficulty of persuading the male re-cruits to behave like gentlemen: "We have to lay that all out and look at it and make a determination as to what is best," General Reimer said. Once all the emotion of the harassment complaints had subsided, there probably was a need for a more detailed

look in this particular area". It is the first time in recent years that an officer of such high rank has questioned mixed-sex training. Since the early 1970s commanders, although often with deep reservations, have gone along with the received view that male and female recruits should muck in together. Feminism demanded nothing less than total equality and to question

that creed was foolhardy.

The Chief of Staff was appearing before a Senate



McKinney: woman said that he harassed her

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rmed services committee hearing convened to discuss the high incidence of recent cases alleging sexual bullying of female recruits. The issue was given greater prominence this week by allegations from a female sergeant-major that she was sexually confronted by the army's most senior NCO, Gene McKinney, the Sergeant-Major of the Army. Senator Dan Coats, a Re publican, said that he found it hard to believe that we can ever create an atmosphere, particularly in the military. where we don't add to the tension" by introducing women into training routines.

Another Republican, Senator Rick Santorum, compared mixing young men and women in training to "sitting with a match near some 'gunpowder and expecting a spark not to fly".



Former footballer stands to lose everything in civil action over death of ex-wife and her friend

OJ Simpson facing ruin after \$8.5m court defeat



Simpson: bodyguards led

general him

parale trains

Wormen sold

second trial has left him facing financial ruin and Americans contemplating a racial rift as deep as any since the case began with two killings in 1994.

The unanimous verdict in the

civil action, and the award of \$8.5 million (E5.2 million) damages against him, by a jury of nine whites and no blacks was the bluntest possible rejection of Mr Simpson's acquittal by a mainlyblack jury in his murder trial 16. months ago. It leaves him free but vilified and paves the way for punitive damages that could strip him of everything except his pension. "Thank God for some justice for Ron and Nicole," Fred Goldman said after the verdict, referring to his murdered son and Mr Simpson's former wife. "Our family is grateful for a verdict of responsibility, which is all we have

ever wanted." His words found echoes throughout prosperous middle-class America, where a white majority condemned the first Simpson trial as a shameful parody, warped by the "race card" and ignoring hard scientific evidence. But many blacks saw Tuesday's reversal of fortune as an object lesson in white

domination of the justice system.

In an ABC poli taken minutes television cameras, barely one in four of those who agreed with it

no blacks on the jury means he did not have a trial of his peers," Danny Bakewell, of the Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade, said.

A Los Angeles Times survey indicated a city even more polarised than the rest of the country, with 70 per cent of whites but only 10 per cent of blacks saying that they believed Mr Simpson killed Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman. Police outside the Santa Monica

courthouse were ready for riots but had to cope only with jubilant and

6 He lied and lied and lied and he got caught, got caught, got caught?

largely white crowds pressing for a glimpse of the victorious Goldman family and booing Mr Simpson as his bodyguard led him to his car. Minutes earlier, Mr Goldman had elenched his fist and yelled "Yest" so loudly that he was admonished to control himself as the bailiff read the jury's simple answer to the question: "Do you, by

find that O.J. Simpson wilfully and

a preponderance of the evidence,

window of a mobile studio linked to a microphone in the courtroom, from which television cameras were banned, confirming the result to a nation torn between watching the verdict and the State of the

Staring across the countroom through tears of relief, Kim Goldman, Ronald's sister, yelled at an impassive Simpson: "Oh my God, you're a murderer!" Arms held aloft in triumph, the

Goldman family emerged from a courthouse bathed in television lights to hear a crowd of perhaps a thousand chanting the Queen song, We Are The Champions. They were led by a slow phalanx of police to a nearby hotel where, choking back sobs, Mr Goldman said that the werdict had been reached with honesty, dignity and complete truth", and that "Ron would be proud.

Despite covering familiar ground, the four-month civil trial differed radically from the criminal one in its speed, intensity and discipline, Crucially for the victims' families, Judge Hiroshi Fujisaki ruled out the "Dream Team"

defence tactic of putting the police on trial instead of Mr Simpson. This time the case hinged not on Detective Mark Fuhrman's use of the word "nigger", but on a four-



Fred Goldman with his daughter Kim, centre, and wife Patti, after they heard the verdict

contempt-of-court charges. Simpson appeared to seal his own fate by swearing that he had never beaten his wife despite having confessed to just that in 1989, and by insisting that he had never owned a pair of "ugly ass" Italian shoes whose prints were found at the crime scene. When shown 31 photographs of him wearing them, he called the pictures fakes.

"He lied and lied and lied," Mr Petrocelli said in closing arguments. "And he got caught, got



Ruling widens black-white divide

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THIS time it was black America's turn to be outraged. This time it was the whites who ran into the streets to honk car horns, clap "high fives" and holler "Yest" at the outcome of the O.J. Simpson case in a California courthouse.

Just as happened two years ago in the first Simpson trial. the jury's decision created racial rancour across the Unihumanity's great melting-pot. What should never have been more than a grubby little slaying on Tinselsown peripheries yet again proved a Official America might

like it and the television networks, which did so much originally to promote this tawdry case, might try to make the nation watch the country's President as he gave a sober, set-piece speech. However, in the hoods and the borbs and the echoing caverus of American common opinion; the outcome boiled down, again, to black and

In New York, theatregoers sacrificed their night out to watch news of the ruling on the giant television screen in Times Square Guilty at said. "They got him!" Howev-

er, a couple of miles north, in Harlem, the reaction was very different: anger that O. J., carrying the black man's bur-den, had been tripped up by the Goldmans' white lawyers. "They were never going to give up," sighed a black friend in despair. "But how can he be found innocent in the murder trial and then have to

pay damages?"

It was a black lawyer Johnnie Cochran, who played the race card in the first trial and attacked the suspect past of a white cop. This chapter is now over, said Mr Cochran after Tuesday night's result. Dream on, brother. He should have been in Downtowner Saloon in Fort Lau-derdale, Florida, where white customers bayed delight that "justice!" had been done. He should have been at Mezzaluna, the Los Angeles restaurant where Nicole Brown Simpson ate her last supper, as diners stopped talking and watched the new

live on television. It did not belp that the sole black juror had been kicked out in the last week over a amudged juror questionnaire. How can you have a California jury without a single black? asked Mr Simpson's supporters.

Eight questions that jurors had to answer

questions. They will now have to consider punitive damages in respect of questions 3, 4, 6 and 7. If they had said "no" to 1 and they would have ignored the other

questions. They were asked: Do you find by a preponderance of the evidence that defendant Simpson: Wilfully and wrongfully caused the death of Ronald Goldman?

Committed battery against Ronald

3. Committed oppression in the conduct upon which you base your finding of liability for battery against Ronald Goldman?

4. Committed malice in the conduct upon which you base your finding of liability for battery against Goldman? Do you find by a preponderance of the evidence that defendant Simpson: 5. Committed battery against Nicole

rown Simpson? Do you find by clear and convincing Do you find by clear and convincing

evidence that defendant Simpson: Committed oppression in the conduct upon which you base your finding of liability for battery against Nicole Brown

Simpson?
7. Committed malice in the conduct upon which you base your finding of liability for battery against Nicole Brown Simpson?

8. Asked how much money Goldman's parents should receive for loss of their

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Rebels set Mobutu two-week deadline to give up power

ZAIRE'S rebel leader vester day gave President Mobutu two weeks to relinquish power or face removal by force in an offensive that has gathered foreign mercenaries.

Laurent Kabila, the leader of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation Congo-Zaire, said in the palace in Sahara's longest reigning President - that Mr Mobutu had until February 21 to stand him," the veteran rebel leader

In the past the campaign was little more than a dream. Faced with a threat of commu Zaire's leader enjoyed the protection of Western powers who turned a blind eye to his abuses of power in a territory the size of Western Europe.

"Unless Mobutu can come to the table and agree to relinquish power. I will have him removed by military force. The only option left for Mobutu is to negotiate a handover." Mr Kabila said.

Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku changed his name from Joseph Désiré Mobutu during his drive for "Africanisation" in the 1970s. The name translates as the "cockerel who jumps all the chicks in the

With the end of the Cold War, Mr Mobutu has few riends abroad and is fighting his political surviva against the most successful uprising in his 31-year tenure in office, and against cancer

spread throughout his body. This week he has been in Rabat, visiting his old supporter, King Hassan of Morocco. In 1977 and 1978, Morocco sent troops to put down anti-Mobutu uprisings but this time his pleas for help

His enemies are east Zaire's rebel fighters, many of whom have fought in civil wars in Uganda and Rwanda and have driven Zaire's regular army ahead of their advance with little trouble. In nearly four months of fighting. Mr Kabila's forces have taken a



ing more than 600 miles, virtually from the Zambian border in the south, towards Sudan and Uganda in the

Last month the Government launched a counter-offensive backed by an estimated 300 mercenaries, many of them Serbs and Croats. European soldiers are unused to the disease, heat and poor food of Central Africa. So far the mercenaries have proved no match for the rebels, who are dominated by ethnic Tutsis trained in Uganda and Rwan-

Red Cross pulls out Rwanda workers

مِكذا من رلامل

THE Red Cross said yesterday that it was withdrawing most of its aid workers from Rwanda after the murder of five United Nations human rights workers in the country.

One of the victims, a Briton, was named as Graham Turnbull, the leader of a team of UN human rights monitors in the Cyangugu region where

Twenty-five delegates would leave for Nairobi in the next two days with only a core staff of six remaining in Kigali, the capital, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said. This is not a decision we take lightly," said a spokesman. But it was necessary after the escalation of violence over the past weeks."

Gunmen ambushed the UN workers in southwestern Rwanda on Tuesday. Four, including Mr Turnbull, were killed immediately, the fifth, an interpreter, died later. The others were a Cambodian and three Rwandans.

They were killed while visiting the commune of Karengera in Cyangugu, about 200 miles southwest of Kigali on the Zairean border, in a marked UN vehicle. There were no details of who carried out the ambush, but Hutu extremists are suspected

About 40,000 Rwandan refigees fied encampments in the Shabunda area of eastern Zaire yesterday after reports town, the UN High Commis-

Local authorities said the refugees left after it was reported in the area that Katshunga, a small town about 25 miles northeast of



Big rifts appear in Antarctic ice shelf

By NIGEL HAWKES

HUGE cracks have appeared in a vast Antarctic ice shelf whose northern section collapsed two years ago, an

Argentine expert says. Dr Rudi del Valle, director of geology with the Argentine Antarctic Institute, said he was convinced that the 4,600 square mile Larsen B ice shelf would collapse within two years. "It will be destroyed without any doubt," he said, after flying over the shelf with members of Greenpeace. "We saw a lot of cracks and ice rifts and hig holes in the ice shelf. And we don't have an explanation for them."

Two years ago the neighbouring Larsen A ice shelf the size of Oxfordshire floated away. This was attributed to a rise in temperatures of 25C in the area over the past half century. Before the collapse it had become criss-crossed with deep cracks, some 30 miles long and 100ft wide.

copters from its ship. Arctic Sunrise, over Larsen B yesterday and reported that the surface of the shelf is riven with cracks and deep fissures.

arctic Survey yesterday examined recent satellite images of the ice shelf to see if they could spot similar changes. Dr Tom Lachian-Cope said the resolution of the images was too low to detect cracks, but melt pools were visible. These have been quite common in the past few ears," he said.

indicators of changing global temperatures. Arctic Sunrise has been in Antarctica for the past two weeks to document

Magnet

HALF PRICE SALE

da and who are believed to

have been advised by guerrilla

experts from Eritrea and

been useful to the Govern-

ment. We have killed seven of

He said that in the south his

forces had advanced to within

25 miles of the town of Moba,

which is 300 miles from

Lubumhashi, the capital of the

mineral-rich Shaba province.

Control of Moba and of

Kalemie, which fell to the

rebels earlier this week, gives

Mr Kabila a commanding

strategic advantage over government forces in Shaba.

Many of the region's exports

are sent via Moba and

Kalemie and the rebels now

have a route which can take

Mr Kabila said other

frontline units were within II

miles of Lubutu, which has

been the main base of the exile

Rwandan Hutu army. They

are making a last stand to prevent the rebel forces from

advancing further on Kisan-

We are putting pressure on

Mobutu and his useless army.

We have not met much resis-

tance because Mobutu's army

does not have generals, they

"France and Belgium are

recruiting and paying for the

they will be defeated because

the population is on my side.

People are tired of Mobutu's

slavery system," he added.

abused by a corrupt system.

They are joining us in their

They are tired of being

are traders," Mr Kabila said.

and government forces.

them to Lubumbashi.

them," Mr Kabila said.

The [mercenaries] have not

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Magnet Food for thought

Memoirs test Manhattan's love affair with Woody

Farrow yesterday attacked len, publishing memoirs that describe in detail the break-up of their 12-year relationshi fallen in love with her young

adopted daughter, Soon-Yi.
MisFarrow's What Falls Away did good business with-in hours of bookshops opening in the couple's home city of New York. It came after disclosures earlier this week in a television interview.

The book depicts the filmmaker as a troubled, antiinterest" in children, yet allegedly would strip to his underpants to cuddle a six-year-old girl. Ms Farrow writes that he s rude to his parents, didactic, and a man who even at the beight of his love affair with the waif-like actress would have his lawyer go over domestic matters.

Another mainstay of his existence, she writes, is his psy-chiatrist. He calls psychotherapy his "crutch".

During their relationship - conducted from separate houses on opposite sides of

IN A devastating second sal-vo. the American actress Mia to only three parties. "Mo-boy his i Farrow yesterday attacked ments of intimacy" had to be stone.

ules, often during the day. She recalls that one evening she found Mr Allen standing beside the bed of six-year-old Dylan, holding his thumb in her mouth. "Please, I said, and he quickly pulled his thumb out," she writes. Soon afterwards she redrafted her will and wrote to a friend that she felt she had "come perilously close to a genuine

meltdown of my very core".

At one stage, daims Ms Farrow, Dylan, hearing Mr would run through rooms asking her siblings to "hide me ... hide me!" Ms Farrow says: "It was not a game."

The real-life Mr Allen, she writes, is "nothing like" the stage Woody Allen, "a lovable nebbish endlessly and hilariously whining and quacking. questioning moral and philosophical issues great and small". The "real" Alien is, in her account a man obsessed with an "inappropriate intensity" towards his lover's children. But when he learnt that

the child he and Ms Farrow

burst into flames after a mid-

air collision, Binyamin

Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime

Minister, said: "I think the

jubilation we heard from Hezboliah tells you who we

are dealing with ... [their]

goal is not to get us out of Lebanon, but to get us out of

Responding to growing calls to withdraw from the "Leba-non mud", Mr Netanyahu

vowed that there would be no

change in Israel's policy over

Lebanon. "We are not going to

be deterred, and we are not

going to relent ... we shall

defend our country. We shall

reduce the risks. Ultimately,

Chief Rabbi Meir Lau, who

has called today for national

fasting as part of the official mourning that ends tonight

with prayers at the Wailing Wall, said the loss was "a

reminder that we are still

fighting for our existence".

we shall achieve peace, too."

were to have together was a boy his interest dropped like a:

Yi that Mr Allen seemingly had taken, she told him to "ge away from us". He said that he was trying to improve the teenager's "confidence". It was he said, "just a tepid little affair that probably shouldn't have lasted more than a few weeks longer anyway — I told Soon-Yi she shouldn't expect anything". When Ms Farrow told Soon-Yi's father, the conductor André Previn, Mr Alien fell to the floor and clutched his stomach. Mr Previn was disgusted.

The memoirs will test to the limit New York's high regard for Mr Allen, long its favourite film-maker. His films have mirrored what Manhattan

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'society" likes to think it is. In recent months, Mr Allen has become more visible around town, accompanied by the meek Soon-YI, whose hand he holds like a lead. A Z7-page appendix to the book publishes in full the state supreme court decision of her 1993 child custody battle with

Air disaster fuels row over Lebanon

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

MYSTERY last night sur-rounded the cause of Israel's worst military air disaster on Tuesday which left 73 service-men dead and plunged the Jewish State into national

The loss of the helicopters which were headed towards southern Lebanon's war zone - led Shirmon Peres, the former Labour Prime Minister, to introduce a political element into the grieving.

He argued in an interview from Switzerland that "though this is not the time for blame, the time has come to put an end to this involvement in Lebanon ... We will end up making the same concessions in the end, but only after more blood has been spilt."

Mr Peres said he did not

back the growing clamour for a unilateral withdrawal from the nine-mile wide "buffer zone" which Israel has occupied since its forces pulled out of the rest of Lebanon in 1985. However, he said: "There is a price for peace with Lebanon and with Syria, and we must utter this truth and not toy

with illusions." The agony of Jews from every level of society at the deaths of young men, most aged about 20, was matched by reports of wild rejoicing in refugee camps and villages in Lebanon controlled by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah. Speaking at the site where the two Sikorski helicopters

Biko: became martyr to

Poison claim in Biko death

Johannesburg: Claims that Steve Biko may have been poisoned and not beaten to death as widely believed, are being investigated by South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Inigo Gilmore writes).

Dumisa Ntsebezi, the com-mission's chief investigator, said a document alleged that brain damage which the Black Consciousness leader suffered before he died in detention may have been caused by

Biko, who died in a prison hospital in 1977, became a martyr of the anti-apartheid struggle and the claims will renew interest in his case.

Bigni appear is Intard



Dr Thomas Stuttaford on treatment for an irritating condition, why Koo Stark is having a healthy pregnancy, a strange cure for warts and the links between high blood pressure, exercise and strokes

A syndrome that can make your life misery

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problem

Norfolk, one of our neigh-bours. Miss Hodgson, the elderly spinster daughter of a local parson, brought her own charcoal biscuits with her whenever she called for a cup of tea or coffee.

She explained that she suffered from colitis and that without her charcoal biscuits her day would be ruined by the abdominal pain, and other symptoms too intimate to mention, which would have

been induced by my mother's buns. Miss Hodgson was my introduction to irritable howel syndrome, which 60 years ago was often referred to as mucous, orspastic colitis. Since then I — like all older doctors - have seen hundreds, probably thousands, of cases of irritable, bowel syndrome and it is the most

common reason why patients are referred to gastro-intesti-nal clinics for further

investigations. The term colitis should be reserved for the inflammatory bowel diseases such as ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, the infective dysenteries, or rarities such as ischaemic colitis or the inflammation of the

bowel which sometimes fol-lows radiotherapy. It should not be used for irritable bowel syndrome, which is not life threatening even shough it can destroy someone's peace of mind as well the serenity of their gots.

Irritable bowel syndrome is characterised by five senotypes abdomi-

characterised by five symptoms. Abdominal swelling, which Miss Hodgson was prepared to talk about in front of a youngboy, abdominal pain (also mentionable in ' pain is relieved by a visit to the Javatory is not so readily discussed, nor are the frequent bowel movements), excessive wind and the passing of mucous. Even after defecation there is some sensation that the mission has not been successfully completed.

There are two other varients of the irritable bowel syndrome. One is now referred to as functional diarrhoes, which in my undergraduate days was known as intestinal hurry. It is this trouble which grips the public speaker's intestines so savagely that he is unable to eat before his

rush from the top table to the closkroom. Functional diarrhoea also causes the commuter to have to go to the lavatory several times before leaving to catch the

Classically, sufferers from functional diarrhoen have urgent and frequent defection in the morning, but are in command of their bowels for the rest of the day. Symptoms can be troublesome at other times if they have to endure a tense meal, perhaps with a boss or would-be lover—particularly if the meal ends with too strong a cup of coffee. After their morning activities some patients feel so exhausted that they need a quick sleep before setting forth for the day.

The third varient of the irritable howel is that of primary motility of the fore gut. This is more A meal common in women than men and causes bloating, loss of appetite, nausea and abdomi-nal pain which is often on the lover can

right side. Irritable bowel syndrome should not be confused with inflammatory bowel disease. Inflammatory bowel disease can cause very serious disability if not carefully treated. A new preparation. Entocort enema, has been introduced recently which will help pa-

tients with ulcerative colitis. Entocort budesomide is one of the better steroid preparations for treating inflammatory bowel diseases as it is most effective in those places where it is needed the intestines - but does not suppress blood levels of cortisol as much as other steroids and therefore has fewer side-

A preparation of Entocort capsules taken by mouth was introduced about a year ago to treat Crohn's disease, which can affect any part of the gastro-intestinal tract from the mouth to the anus. The new enema will be particularly useful for patients with ulcerative colitis, which only

attacks the large bowel.

Whatever, the cause of the patient's troubles, whether socially inconvenient and very uncomfortable irritable bowel syndrome, or the potentially serious or inflammatory bowel conditions, any patient who has disturbance with their



Koo Stark is the picture of health - but this may be due to meditation rather than medication

Safe remedies to protect mother and baby

oo Stark's good health relies less on medication and more on meditation than that of most people. Even Koo, however, must have suffered some of the inconveniences of pregnancy and won-dered what was sale to take to relieve them and which preparations could damage her baby.

Ann Lee, a pharmacist at Glasgow Royal Infirmary writing in the journal General Practitioner, recently gave some straightforward advice to doctors and patients on the drugs which can be used safely during pregnancy.

Doctors tend to err on the side of caution when treating pregnant Women, and no surgery desk is complete without a copy of Mims, the national formulary and Martindales pharmacopoeia. I look up

drugs prescribed for pregnant women with my patient present, so that they can see for themselves that the sugested tablets are numless.

Nausea and vomiting affect 80 per cent of women in the first three months of pregnan-cy. The troubles tend to be worse in

the early morning, bence the term morning sickness, and the advice given is to have a cup of tea and biscuits in

sickness'

bed and to get up slowly.

A hurried start to the day can end in a nauscous disaster. Although popularly known as morning sickness, this description of the vomiting of early pregnancy isn't entirely accurate as nausea and vomiting can occur at any time. The teaand-biscuits-in-bed routine should be followed by frequent small meals throughout the day. Large quantities of fluid should be avoided as the stomach is dilated during pregnan-cy and it also takes longer to

GP magazine suggests that it is worth trying such drugs as antihistamines or Stemetil, which may help. Doctors' in-ability to treat vomiting and nansca in early pregnancy is illustrated by the journal's suggestion that it would be worth trying the type of bracelet worn

Heartburn is invariably troublesome to the mother in the later stages of pregnancy when the growing baby overcrowds the abdomen and encourages the reflux of stomach contents back into the bottom of the ocsophagus

I usually recommend Gaviscon, and there is a new form of it available called Gaviscon Advance. This floats like a raft on the top of the stomach contents while it suppresses reflux, coats the inflamed area and neutralises any excess acid. Simple antacids have never been shown to do the baby any harm but some of the aluminium products

may increase constipution. Despite the age-old habit of midwives and doctors recommending senna preparation for constipation, these and other

gut stimulants are best avoided during Tea and pregnancy. Bulk expanders such as Isogel and Manevac biscuits are the first choice in bed are usually effective, particularly if shuid intake is increased and a high-fibre diet can help morning

Urinary tract and chest infections are more common in pregnancy than at

other times. The penicillins cephalosporins, such as Cephalexin, and erythromycin are all safe. Tetracyclines. drugs of the gentamicins and the quinolones such as Ciprofloxacin, should be avoided. Flagyl (metronidazole and trimethoprim) is, for theoretical reasons, best avoided in the first three monts of pregnancy.

No account of diet in preg-

nancy is complete without mention of the vexed question of alcohol. Severe alcoholics sometimes have children who suffer from the foetal alcohol syndrome the child is small, retarded and has the classic deformities which give it a phie-like appearance. Smaller, but still heavy amounts of alcohol regularly consumer can cause a modified form of this syndrome, the foetal alcohol effect, which results in smaller, less bright children. It is wise to restrict alcohol intake to two drinks on any one occasion, and not more than seven in a

Hormone loss can weaken vour bones

LF any evidence was needed that men as well as women need treatment for osteoporosis, and that falling hormone levels to later life are responsible, it has been provided by a recent survey in the United States. The research, reported in the Journal of Urology, compared bone density in patients who had had treatment for cancer of the prostate with others who were awaiting treatment or were apparently lit.

One treatment for cancer of the prostate is orchidectomy -- castration. Patients whose horn levels had been reduced, whether by surgical or chemical castration, had a very much higher incidence of osteoporosis with low bone density than those who still had normal testosterone levels.

Osteoporosis in men tends to start rather later than in women, so that the once-athletic male only starts to shrink in his seventies. Whatever the age of onset, osteoporosis has the same effects in men as in women, but in men the spine is particularly vulnerable so that loss of height is obvious, and with this and vertebral osteoporosis there is no root pain so that nerves leading from the back are "trapped" or "nipped" causing symptoms ranging from ciatica to wasting arms

and unexplained chest pain. The effects of osteoporosis in the male are exacerbated by the muscle weakness which accompanies low testosterone levels in the aging man.

The day my son went out and buried a problem

ONE of the mysteries medicine to the orthodox why homoeopathy works. The standard explanation offered by homoeopaths is hard to prove scientifically, but experience does show that patients often benefit from the minis trations of homoeopathicallytrained doctors.

Some orthodox doctors suspect that some of the success of their homoeopathic colleagues is the result of the time they spend with a patient and the care they take over discussion of their symptoms.

Recently, a standardly con-ducted trial has shown that homoeopathic meanment for warts is no more effective than a placebo, but wart treatment is a chancy business and orthodox medicine isn't always effective either. The trial,

PAMELA Harriman has died

after suffering a severe stroke while exercising. She looked

remarkably young for her age and retained a zest for life, but

would she have avoided the

stroke if she had been content

to walk briskly — provided her joints allowed it — for half an hour every day, whether to the

local shops or taking her favourite dog for a walk?

blood pressure and any sud-

den increase in blood pres-

sure, such as may be induced

by over-vigorous exercise, can

cause a rupture of the blood

vessel in the brain and thereby

a cerebral haemorrhage, one

Sudden exercise, the quick

sprint to the train, for instance,

or violent exercise in the gym.

can also make the heart beat

irregularly, one of the very

of the types of stroke.

Violent exercise puts up the



Sixty children were treated homoeopathic prepara-

reported in the magazine Der-matology, was double blind and randomised.

tions or with a placebo. A

the skin affected by warty cessful. Seven of the placebo treated children had this measure of response, and nine of those treated by the homoeopaths did equally well. Statisticians say the difference is not significant.

digestion in this way should seek help

condition. The Sufferer's Guide to Coping with IBS, has been prepared by Dr David Silk and published by the IBS appeal. It is

a practical manual on living with the syndrome and includes invaluable advice

on the type of food which may make the condition better or worse. The book also includes 100 case histories so that patients

will be able to compare their troubles with

● The Sufferer's Guide to Coping With IBS is available from the IBS Appeal, Central Middleser Hospital, NHS Trust, Acton Lane,

those of other people.

The many sufferers from irritable

When one of my sons was oung, I treated the warts on his hands for many months with very limited success. Suddenly, all my son's warts vanished — but then he admitted that he had despaired of his father's feeble efforts and had consulted one of his ledgeable schoolfellows.

The boy prescribed rubbing the wart with old ham, then burying it in the garden. My son did this - and his warts went in a week.

An exercise in stroke avoidance

common causes of ischaemic strokes from disturbed clots. Poor control of blood pressure is responsible for many strokes. Although great benefit in their prevention is achieved by reducing the blood pressure to under 150/90, only a third of patients who have strokes achieve control as good as this. Studies have shown that poor control. is attained even when patients, and their doctors, know that more than 60 per cent of those who have a stroke suffer from

The Scottish Medical Jour-

nai recently reported on a

study of nearly 800 practices. This showed that one-third of the doctors were not aware of the rather liberal guidelines laid down by the British Hypertensive Society, which uggests that blood pressure should be kept below 160/100. Fifteen per cent of general practitioners didn't recommend any treatment until blood pressure was over 170.

Recent research has shown that not only is blood pressure still hadly controlled in this country, but not all the drugs used are equally effective when the patient is exercising. In particular, some newer calcium channel blockers are not so efficient when the patient starts to exercise as were the older preparations such as verapamil, Securon, which controls blood pressure even when doing PI

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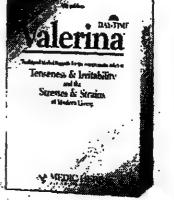
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14 FEATURES

THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 1997

The oil on canvas Old Woman with a Cup by Giuseppe Nogari valued at £7,000 to £10,000

Sotheby's and the Art of Smuggling

In a new book serialised by The Times, author Peter Watson exposes Sotheby's role in the illegal traffic in Old Masters



west London. It was James Hodges, Outside in the road was a Morris Oxford, a 1960

model with gleaming chrome and old-fashioned tailfins. Hodges drove and we headed off west along the King's Road. I had known him for less than a week. Our first meeting had taken place the Friday before, at his house in Shepherds Bush. What he had told me initially was that he had worked for Sotheby's auction house for more than a decade, that for a lot of the time he had been involved in unethical and illegal practices, and that he had in his possession enormous amounts of documentation from Sotheby's which, he claimed, showed that wrongdoing was rife.

He also said that Sotheby's had a good inkling of what he had squirrelled away and that, although he had left the company honourably in 1989 with eight months' pay, it had later caused him to be charged on two counts of theft from its premises.

He had been arrested about a year before and had spent the weekend in a cell at West End Central police station at Savile Row. His case was to come to trial later that year.

He also told me that one night he had come key individuals in home to find two Italian antiquities dealers specialist departsitting in his living room. They had heard he ments were involved.

EARLY in the evening had left Sotheby's and wanted to make sure he of Sunday March 3, would not reveal anything about their dealings 1991, there was a with the company. They were civil enough, on knock on the door of that occasion, said Hodges, though there was my house in Chelsea, no doubt in his mind that their visit was a form of threat. Hodges added that he and a friend had on occasions posed as dustmen and rummaged through the bins of several Sotheby's directors to see if they could find anything incriminating to help his defence.

The Morris Oxford followed the King's Road as it curled around World's End and passed alongside the common at Parson's Green. At the far end of the common was a pub, the White Horse. Hodges parked the car, we got out and climbed to an upstairs room. That night I was shown three suitcases of documents. Some were on Sotheby's letterhead, others on blue internal memo forms or yellow property cards. Some were franked with Sotheby's internal franking machine. Some were signed or initialled by people I knew and whose signatures I recognised.

Amid all the documents, however, there was indeed prima facie evidence of widespread, long-term wrongdoing inside Sotheby's. It was

not clear in the White Horse how far these activities extended throughout the company, but what did seem evident was that





The Italian job

me the start of a sixyear investigation into Sotheby's. I marrowed down the paperwork to 592 key documents, consisting of more than 800 sheets, and apparently showing wrongdo-

ing in 22 areas.

The investigation was by no means straightforward. To begin with, when Hodges went on trial that November, he was charged not only with theft, but with false accounting

and forgery.
He claimed in his defence that he was but a small part of a much wider ring of wrongdoing at Sotheby's, Some of his superiors made damaging idmissions in court (such as that they had falsified documents) but although Hodges was acquitted on 18 counts, he was convicted on one count of their, another of false accounting, and a third of forgery. He went to jail for five months.

The conviction for forgery was clearly worrying and meant that although documents he had passed to me seemed genuine, independent corroboration was essential. To help me, I enlisted the aid of a colleague, Bernard Clark, a television journalist, with his own company, and we per-suaded David Lloyd, editor of Disputches at Channel 4, that the documents were worth investigating. Clark brought in as producer for the programmes a very talented and rather younger man than either of us, Sam Bagnall.

No area of subsequent inrestigation, which led to two programmes and this book, proved to be more shocking than the wrongdoing we unearthed in the area of Italian Old Master paintings.

There were maybe 50 or 60 pages of documents which appeared to show that the company smuggled Old Master paintings out of Italy to England, where they were sold at auction in London. The documents identified the Milan office as the headquarters of this illegal traffic and several identified paintings by

manne and artist We needed to put to the test this outline of the clandestine trade as it was revealed in the

our intention to take an Italian Old Master to Sotheby's Milan office, ask them to sell it in London, and then sit back and

see what they did. We had bought a painting in Naples, a portrait by the 18thcentury artist Giuseppe Nogari. Naples was a long way from Milan, and Sotheby's had no office there. Milan, and The art trade is a very small world and we did not want to risk a picture that was

Now that we had a painting,

The name at Sotheby's Milan office which the documents mentioned most often was Nancy Neilson, an American-However, she no longer worked there and our inquiries showed that her place as Old Masters expert had been taken: by one Roeland Kollewijn, who was Dutch. It

late on the morning of Wednesday March 27. She explained to him that she was an Australian and was in Italy for only a few

was he whom Victoria called



Roeland Kollewijn, Old Masters expert at Sotheby's in Milan

for it. Our idea which was put to Channel 4, and approved, was to have someone go into Sotheby's in Milan with the painting and say that it was part of a recently inherited

After a false start, we found the perfect person, an Australian camerawoman named Victoria Parnall. She was of Italian extraction, so could plausibly argue that she had "inherited" some paintings from her grandmother. Victoria also had an address that we could use in Sydney.

We spent days briefing her. In the first instance, Victoria was to be vague about exactly what she had inherited. We also gave her a "sister". This sister had children and so could not leave Sydney, but she knew more about art and the art world than Victoria did. We thought this might be

we needed a plansible history days. She asked if she could see Kollewijn quickly. He

Sotheby's offices, in the Via Broggi, are discreet, located in a quiet, fashionable area between the public gardens and

the central station. Besides Victoria's psychological preparation. Sam Bagnall had also prepared her electronically. In her bag she carried a state ofthe art tape recorder. No less important, hidden inside a crystal brooch pinned to her lapel, was a tiny fish-eye camera whose wire ran under her jacket to a Hi-8 tape machine, about the size of a cigarette packet, pinned safely

inside her pocket.
At 11.45am she stepped into Sotheby's. She carried the Nogari in a plain paper bag, double-wrapped in bubble plastic and brown paper and sealed with masking tape. Victoria asked

up some stairs to the mezzanine floor.

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After a few moments, Kollewijn arrived. He was a short, slight, blond-haired, good-looking man with rimless speciacles. He liked the painting but said it wasn't suitable for the international market. He then added: "The difference between the international market and local Italian market is when you've got the high-level stuff ... if you have something for the international market, a beautiful Guido Reni or a Raphael ... then you go well over the

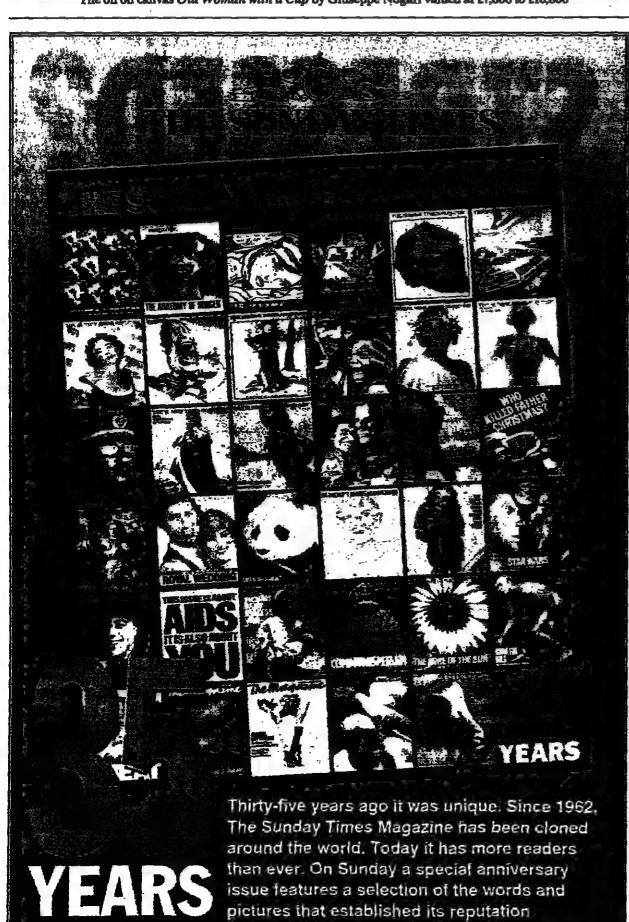
italian price. This is not an international market picture. But if you have international quality, you really should send it away. it's very important. You know, if you have a Canaletto or a

Guardi .. out." Victoria left the painting with Kollewijn. He had hinted that smuggling still went on, but only with more valuable paintings than we possessed. We decided to sleep on it.

That evening I looked at the documents again. It was only when I was faced with the wording in the paperwork that I understood. Many of the people mentioned were people who consigned pictures regularly. In other words, Sotheby's would do something for them they wouldn't do for a first-time relative stranger such as Victoria. As I digested all this, I realised that we had to raise the stakes - and persuade Kollewiin that we

were worth his while. By 8am London time, Friday morning, I was on the telephone to Italy. I explained that wanted Victoria to go into Sotheby's in Milan that day, but unannounced. Her sudden arrival would emphasise her keenness to deal with him. to make the sale happen.

Victoria was also to explain that she had talked to her sister in Sydney, and that the sister had instructed her to tell Kollewijn about the other paintings in their "collection". The composition of the collection was all-important. Kollewijn, we now knew, was impressed by the Nogari. The











Left: In a reconstruction for Dispatches, the Nogari is bought in Italy. Top right: Eve White, an actress, at the auction where she bought the Nogari on Dispatches' behalf. Right: George Gordon, of Sotheby's Old Masters department in London

known painter but the picture was genuine and well executed, and that was what

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It followed that when we made up our list of pictures in this so-called collection, we should not fill it with Tintorettos or Titians or Tiepolos but with names standar are st ing to Nogari: Ni Garofalo, who lived and worked in Ferrara from 1481 to 1559; Andrea di Bartola, who aid erouma Madonnas in Siena in the period 1399-1428, which sell for around £20,000. We deliberately misspeit this name (it should have been Bartolo) to reinforce the idea that Victoria knew

nothing about art. By my calculation, the "collection" which Victoria had "inhecited" contained well over 50 per cent north Italian paintings, and was worth £4,390,000. This would produce a commission in excess of

£800,000 for Sotheby's. I was in the middle of lunch when the telephone rang at about half-past one - halfpast two in Milan. It was Victoria, and she was very excited. "Peter," she said breathlessly, "he admitted everything. Everything."

ut let Kollewijn speak for himself. The following paragraphs contain the relevant extracts from the edited transcript of the encounter with Victoria. She had given Kollewijn the list of other paintings which were in the "collection" she had

Kollewijn: "Good stuff ... If it is what it is ... It's a lot of money ... It's stuff that can't be exported. You know, with Italy within the European Community it's a very difficult country because they are rath-T upset about losing works of art from the country. It's more or less the only natural resource they have . . . they don't have oil or whatever ... so

they're very strict." Victoria asked how much difference it would make to sell the pictures in London. Kollewijn: "I don't want to

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from what you're saying, though, is there some way we can get it out of the country?"
Kollewijn: "Yes. Well, I'm not telling you this as

Victoria: "Just as Roeland to Victoria." Kollewijn: Yes ... you need

matter who Victoria: "Yes."

obviously."

Kollewijn: Then we can smuggle it out."

lem Victoria and her sister faced in selling the collection in Italy was that it would come to the notice of the State, and that they would render themseives liable to tax.

tions. Either sell this privately off to a dealer who takes the risk and probably takes it out of Italy himself, and you don't have a risk but you take less money ... Or you're doing it

you... it's going to cost you for each picture about a million lire (about £450)." Victoria: "Right."
Kollewijn: "Then the best thing about this story is that it

frontal (he smacked his hands) to a (umintelligible)."

everything."
Victoria: "Yes."

put wrong ideas in your mind..."

Victoria: "So, erm, I mean,

Sotheby's.

an address in London. Doesn't

about it. He says he's (unintelligible) — a private person

He then said that the prob-

cannot be insured because it

Victoria: "An accident."
Kollewijn: "An accident and
the whole thing burns — we don't know, I don't know you, I didn't see anything, I will deny

pictures. Were there any pictures? I don't know you lost them... If the illegal transport goes wrong

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Victoria: "Yes."

Victoria: "Right, Okay." .. then you have two op-

an illegal way. An illegal way, you need an address in London, somebody who doesn't want to know anything about it. The expert in London will go to this address to look at the pictures and they will think, not to think - 'Oh, we found it here'. Um, the export will cost

does not exist . . . so it gets to a

Kollewijn: "Sorry about the

Victoria: "Yes."

Kollewijn: "They will confis-cate the pictures. We don't know the owner and you lost Victoria: "How often does that happen?"

Kollewijn: "It never goes wrong, but it will at some point ... I would say if you're going to send it out I'm going to need for this group 'collection'l at least 10 million lire, or 15 million. I'm not taking a penny but they want

Victoria: "No, no I understand what they are saying." Kollewijn: "And then it goes to an address in London, and the Sotheby's expert goes there and says, 'Oh, how nice, what a surprise!'—he knows, but he doesn't (unintelligible). If any-

thing goes wrong he says, 'I

ture . . . about . . . he will prob ably ask for about 800,000 line or something." Victoria: "Okay."

Koliewijn: "I will put it on a truck for you, and then it will go to an address which you have to give me."

Victoria: "Yes." Kollewijn then added: "I will also make a receipt that this picture has been taken away with you. We don't have You can't say that we have it. I want you to sign something: 'I FOOK IT AWAY ... I'm not to smuggle it until I have it out of this office legally ... it's not that I don't trust you, it's just

that this is such a filthy business... if it's only the Nogari, you know, on a good day you get five million lire (£2,300) more in London than you get here."

6 If things go wrong he says, "I saw the pictures in London. I didn't know that the owner exported them illegally"?

saw those pictures in London. I didn't know that the owner exported them illegally'." Kollewijn. "It's not a nice"

Now Victoria took the bull by the horns and asked: "What would you do if you were me?" Kollewijn: "I would smug-

Victoria: "Would you?"
Kollewijn: "I would definitely, but I'm from a different point of view because I see the smuggling all the time . . . You know, I'm in it I know the risk... If those names are all right (meaning the artists in the list) then you want to have it out because there's just pots of money in it, so I would do it. "The Nogari, if you want to go ahead with it, let me know. I'll organise it. I need for the

Nogari, as its a small pic-

Victoria next asked how she should behave over the telephone if she spoke to Kollewijn from Sydney. Kollewijn: "Well, don't be too explicit."

Victoria: "No, okay."
Kollewim: "Because they
can bug us and they do . . . We hope they aren't doing it, but

they are allowed to."
Victoria: "Really?... How
can you tell?"
Kollewijn: "Well, erm, I'm not good at spy stories ... It's that the judge here has investigative powers. He can decide... you can only bug someone if it's important, but the one who decides if it is important is the one who is doing it... so important would be if they thought Sotheby's is going to do illegal exports of art - that's

WINNING =

important."

MMX HURRICANE HITS THE UNITED KINGDOM

Victoria: "Yes." Kollewijn: "So you might... If I were a judge I would bug Sotheby's.

Victoria: "Yes? Because it's happening all the time?" Kollewijn: "Well, they know it's happening all the time, and why are we here?"

Victoria: "Yes." Kollewijn: "So af course it's an iceberg here, so of course we should be bugged immediately. If I were in power I would arrest the whole lot

It took several weeks for Kollewijn to arrange transport for the Nogari portrait. But, on Friday, May 17, he called the woman whose flat in Primrose Hill we were using for "the drop". The delivery, he said, would be on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday of the following week, and the fee would be £200, strictly cash. He added that the woman was to call George Gordon when the picture arrived. Gordon

was second in seniority in Sotheby's Old Masters department in London. We arranged for an actress to play the part of the woman whose flat we were using. At a 10.45am, on the 24th, a large white truck pulled into Princess Road, NWL it belonged to a small transport company from south London, whose name Kollewijn had given us in a fax to Victoria in Sydney. We had hidden cameras in the

flat and in a van outside. The driver got out and took from the cab a painting wrapped in bubble wrap. It was clearly the Nogari. To avoid the rain, he skipped across the pavement and rang the bell. Using the intercom. our actress let him in.

He was a dark-haired man. in a blue shirt which emphasised his beer helly. Our actress had laid the £200 in an envelope on the sofa, so he -could see it as soon as he arrived. He opened up the bubble wrap and took the painting to the window so that our actress could inspect its condition. He said he was taking a "truck" to Italy the next week, inspected the notes in the envelope, and then left. Our actress had been told to

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"IBM SIMPLY SPEAKING"

call George Gordon, but there was a problem as Gordon was away. And so Victoria called Kollewijn again, in Milan. One part of the exchange is worth recording in detail.

lthough Victoria said she was having a problem with Gordon. Kollewijn reas-

> coming back. And he is — he is the one to contact ... because he is the expert on Italian pictures, that nicture, but he's a friend of mine and ..." Victoria: "Right. So he knows the story?

Kollewijn: So I do speak with him, yes. He knows the story, although he will deny it he doesn't know anything." Victoria: "Yes."

Kollewijn: "But he does." Victoria: "Right. Okay." Kollewijn: "So he's the one I usually contact first to get the picture in the catalogue."

Eventually she did make

contact and delivered the painting to Gordon at Sotheby's as arranged. The catalogue for Sotheby's 1996 summer sale of Old Masters was published on June 13. The Nogari was illustrated as Lot 140 but of course the catalogue entry gave no details of the painting's provenance. David Lloyd had sanctioned a plan to buy back the portrait, so we could return it to Italy, and the picture is at present in a bank

vault in Rome. There was one irony remaining: the auctioneer at the sale, where an actress bought back the Nogari on our behalf, was none other than Gordon.

We had been led to Milan by the documents that James Hodges had provided. At his trial, when several Sotheby's witnesses gave evidence against him, he had claimed that he was just a small cog in a much wider ring of wrong-doing inside the company. This was rubbished by the auction house at the time. And yet, as the Kollewijn evidence shows, the documents Hodges made available have been corroborated at every turn. • From the new book by Peter Watson, now published at £20.

STORES NATIONWIDE - SEE LEFT

TOMORROW

Sotheby's: Inside Story - Day 2 Secrets of the auction room

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PAY

Blair must democratise town halls

Margaret Hodge wants voters,

not councillors, to elect mayors

lected executive mayors for Britain's towns and cities. That is an idea which will be debated at this weekend's Labour local gov-ernment conference. Would it give us better local government and would it create

stronger local democracy?
The legacy Labour will inherit from the Tories is a mess. We have had 18 years of experiments and change, including some complete disasters, like the poll tax. All this has left us with many poor services and many demoralised councillors.

It is no wonder that talented people shy away from standing for election to their local council. It is no wonder that 80 per cent of the current batch of councillors are over 45, one third are retired and only one in four is a woman. It is no wonder that only 31 per cent of us bothered to vote at the local

New Labour wants change for local government. We want better public services and we want stronger local democracy. It is not healthy to have everything run by Whitehall or by ministers; that places too much power in the hands of too few people. Equally, we do

not want to return to the Tammany Hall days of the 1960s and 1970s. The new millennium dea new approach.

Local government today needs to fulfil different roles, so we need new institutions to deliver the new purposes. That

Towns and cities compete in a way they didn't a generation. ago. In Britain, Manchester competes with London for millennium cash. In Europe, Liverpool competes with cities in Spain and Germany to build the Ford Escort. In the global economy. Derbyshire competes with Tokyo to produce television sets.

We need a strong voice for our towns and cities. Someone to promote the area, to fight on our behalf for inward investment and public resources. Nobody knows who the town cierk is and few people know their council leader. However, an elected mayor, such as Jacques Chirac in Paris, would have a high public profile and more political weight.

Some people argue that the cult of personality in politics is a bad thing. But well-known, forceful leaders are more effective in fighting the corner for their community. And we will all know where the buck stops. No longer would we need to ring the town hall to complain only to deal with anonymous bureaucrats. With an elected mayor, there will be clarity on where ultimate responsibility

There are other changes, too. Today, we understand bester that if we are to get things done, we cannot leave it to the Government or the council alone. The police alone cannot reduce crime, the local authority alone cannot create jobs and the public sector by itself cannot reduce pollution. We need local authorities to work with the private sector, with schools, colleges and

training and enterprise councils to create jobs. We need the police to work with local communities and public bodies like health and education to cut crime.

But someone has to lead and develop the partnerships we need. That is a new job for local government and it requires a new form of strong leadership, which an elected mayor could give. It is no longer about local councils doing it all from the town hall; it is about getting others to work together and act. That is different and we need a new sort of leadership in our town halls to rise to the occasion.

In the past, local councils have looked inward. Decisions are taken in secret in political party meetings. Attention has focused on the needs of the workforce and not the needs of the public. The leader of the council is elected by the party caucus, so he or she depends on the party, not the public, for the job. Council committees concentrate on managing services, not on a broader strategy for the area.

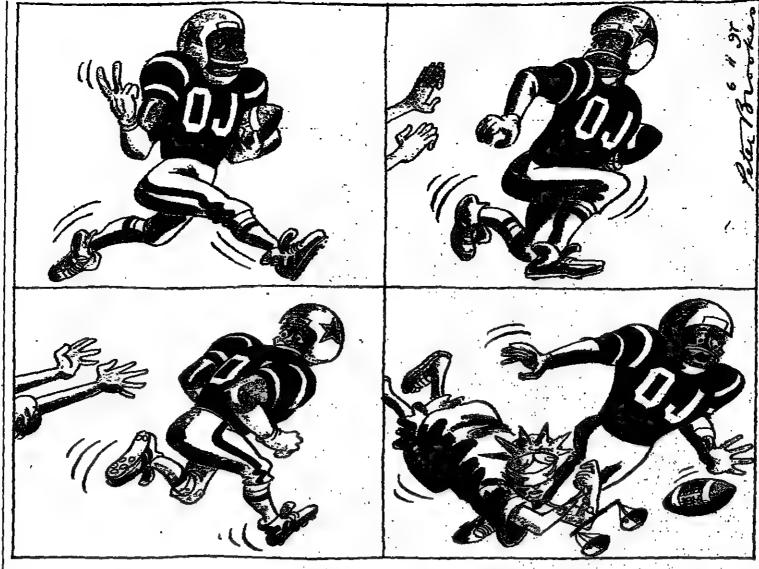
An elected mayor could change this. If the mayor depended on the voters for his re-election, he or she would put them first. He would have

to argue in open, not in secret, to build support for his poli-We need a cies. He would rep-resent the public strong voice interest first, not the for our those who work for towns and the council. People like the idea of elected may-ors. A survey in 1995 our cities

is why we are thinking about found that 70 per cent of voters elected mayors. only 16 per cent of councillors liked the notion. That in itself is telling and shows we should not just listen to the vested interests. But more of us would vote for a directly have a more exciting job than a backbench MP.

> elect their mayors elect their mayors and it works well. We can make sure that with a system of checks and balances it does not lead to new corruption. Tony Blair has said that Labour in government would seek volunteers to test the concept. However, if the survey is right, local councillors may not willingly grasp the opportunity to act as pilot authorities. A Labour government could encourage authorities by offering extra resources or extra powers. But if that, too, fails to entice volunteers, it may prove necessary for government to select a number of councils and insist that they work with elected mayors so that we can learn.

in London, a number of people are already saying they would like the job. On the Conservative side, Steven Norris and David Mellor have made positive noises. On the Labour side, Tony Banks would jump at the chance. For all of us. it might bring some fun and excitement back into politics. It would certainly help to kick-start the renewal of local democracy, and that must surely be a good thing. The author is Labour MP for Barking and a former leader of



Mr Brown's big freeze

ordon Brown does not believe in a free market for labour; that tells us almost everything we need to know about the prospect of life under a Labour Government. The news is civil servants, senior officers, senior

bad. We already knew that the trade unions do not believe in a free market for labour; they insist, like cartels of manufacturers, to interfere with the operation of the market. We also, knew that the Labour Party was committed to signing the European social chapter, which the Prime Minister reasonably believes would cost Britain 500,000 jobs. Now Mr Brown has decided that a Labour government would impose a pay freeze on senior posts in the public

The very words "pay freeze" chill the blood of anyone who can remember the disastrous attempts to control pay in the 1960s and 1970s. It was his incomes policy that destroyed the Heath Government in 1974. The attempt by Labour governments of that period to control pay drove talent abroad, much of which never came back, distorted all pay relationships, put the trade unions in far too powerful a position, and ended with the "winter of discontent". Only a politician who had no sense of history, even of recent history, would promise a pay freeze a few months before a general election. Mr Brown would start by freezing the pay of ministers, judges and generals. He could well end, as Labour did in 1979, with municipal gravediggers refus-ing to bury the dead.

This pay freeze would not even save any significant amount of public money; it is estimated to produce between £10 million and £20 million, a trivial sum in terms of the public accounts, perhaps one two-hun-dredth part of 1 per cent of public expenditure. Mr Brown does not even pretend that his freeze would make any contribution to the real problems of the Exchequer. He believes that it would show "toughness allied to fairness", It would be nearer the mark to say that it would

show "weakness allied to stupidity". First of all, it is unfair. Mr Brown apparently believes that fairness requires there should not be a labour market, that everyone should be paid more nearly the same, the senior much the same as the junior, the skilled as the unskilled, the heavily burdened as those who do easier work. Otherwise he would not have singled out for his first freeze senior

Labour still thinks ministers know better than markets - its fatal conceit

judges, the people with the heaviest public responsibilities. There is no reason to think that

these people are overpaid for what they do. The State has always been a bad paymaster. These salaries are only a fraction of what is now paid in private business for comparable re-sponsibilities. British top business salaries are themselves usually only a fraction of what is paid in the United States. The maximum Civil Service ularies, with which this freeze would be concerned, may be a little more than £150,000 — less than a third of

the pay of a leading ountant or City solichor, about a tenth of the salary and bonus of a successful City fund manager. Yet the salaries to be frozen go

down to a level of about ESO,000, and there are, of course, many more of them. Britain needs to bring state pay much closer to private sector pay if the State is to continue to attract the best talent. As the Americans say: "If you pay peanuts, you get monkeys."

There is nothing fair about this. It

is the pay review body that is trying to be fair, by avoiding a further widening of the already huge gap between market-determined salaries in the private sector and politically determined salaries in the public. Nor is there anything that could be properly called "tough" about it. A politician is not being tough when he appeals to an oversimplified public feeling. Of course many people who are earning something like £20,000 a year will be pleased to hear that judges who are being paid more than £100,000 a year are not to be given any pay increase. They do not reflect, or perhaps do not care, that barristers appearing in front of these judges may be earning £500,000 a year, or perhaps a million. It is for the politician to consider that this disparity of reward means that the best barristers have a strong disincentive to become judges. Mr Brown is not lighting popular senti-ment but endorsing it. Even if that were the right thing to do, it would

not be courageous.

Mr Brown is still in what might be termed the bishops stage in his economic studies, that is pre-1776, before Adam Smith, before the American Declaration of Independence. He does not accept that people should have the liberty to seek their own advantage, to choose their own "pursuit of happiness". He mistaken-ly supposes that so many of the senior state employees are trapped by the eminence of their jobs that pay levels can be imposed on them which fall well below their market value. He does not recognise that underpayment of judges, civil servants and

generals will ultiin the recruitment of the judges, civil servants and gener-als of the future. Rees-Mogg The more notorious Mr Brown makes the meanness of the State to its most

senior servants, the more young aspirants of talent will reject state service. As Adam Smith observed: Whenever the law has attempted to regulate the wages of workmen, it has always been rather to lower them. than to raise them ... every man's interest would prompt him to seek the advantageous and to shun the disadvantageous employment."

ince Smith, no one has had any excuse for failing to understand how markets work. There is demand and there is supply: the price brings them into equilibrium. In this case the demand is for people of high ability, and the supply is limited. If Mr Brown doubts that, he should go to the headhunters and ask them to find him people in the private sector with the ability required to be an effective Permanent Secretary of a major department; and then he should ask the headhunters what their chosen candidates are paid at present. The British public demand for people of high ability is in competition with the demand in other English-language countries for the same people as well as with the British private sector. If the British public sector will not pay the going rate, it will not be able to attract the best people. There will,

indeed, always be some very good people who will work for less than they could get elsewhere, for all sorts of different reasons, but on average every man's interest does 'prompt him to seek the advantageous and to shun the disadvantageous

employment.
Plainly, Mr Brown does not believe in the labour market. But that is not merely an indication of his ignorance, alarming as that ignorance is. Politicians who do not believe in markets generally do believe in something else. They believe in themselves. Mr Brown believes he knows what a civil servant ought to be paid better than the market does, or better than the pay review bodies essment of the market. The more one examines that proposition the more grotesque it appears.

Ultimately the market is aware of decide whether she should learn Mandarin to seek a job with Swire in Hong Kong or with the Foreign Office in London Learning Mandarin is a prolonged process with a considerable cost attached to it. Mr Brown does not know of her existence, but the market does. If the young woman is able, Swire will pay her a salary, which will make it attractive for her to learn Mandarin because their business in China will need ever increasing numbers of Mandarin-speakers, they will have to pay her enough for her to choose their offer rather than that of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. All this the market knows, but Mr Brown knows none of it. Yet he thinks he can decide better than the market what longterm pay prospects the Foreign Office needs to hold out to be able to recruit that young woman. The market is a global information system; Gordon Brown is a localised ignorance

Robin Cook is enthusiastic about the social chapter and is even wobbling towards a single currency: Mr Brown is set on a pay freeze for the top Civil Service: obviously neither has understood how market economies can be made to work. This leaves Tony Blair more isolated than ever. He may be new Labour, but his party and his most senior colleagues still believe that ministers and bureaucrats can allocate resources better than markets can. That illusion has proved disastrous for every previous Labour government, it was the same illusion that finished off the Soviet Union.

American justice is the loser

O.J. Simpson's

trials were wrong,

says Tim Hames

There have been no winners in the case of O.J. Simpson. Not the former football star, who preserved his liberty but lost his reputation in the first trial. Nor the Brown and Goldman families who have now extracted some retribution in the sequet. Least of all any conception of genuine justice, which has been completely undermined throughout both acts of this utterly compelling but ultimately corrosive spectaclé.

Between them, the two trials emphasised all the most undesirable aspects of modern American law. In the first process, Judge Lance Ito allowed his courtroom to become a carnival. Witnesses turned into overnight celebrities; courted by CNN and the chat shows. Jurors hired literary agents in a shameless at-tempt to eash in on the circus. The attorneys soon did the same. Worse still, a slick but brilliant defence team managed to turn the whole trial on its head. Exploiting the longstanding resentment of racial minorities in Los Angeles, they put the police department in the place of the accused: ably if unintentionally assisted by the odious Detective Mark Fuhrman. As a result. Americans divided more like supporters of rival Super Bowl sides than with any real regard to the balance of evidence.

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Easy as it is to sympathise with the murder victims and their relatives, the second instalment was hardly much better. Civil proceedings were hijacked to permit a rerun of the original criminal case. The concept of "wrongful death" — usually applied to events such as accidental industrial injury - became instead the vehicle by which, on a much lower burden of proof than in the initial encounter, a deliberate double knif-ing was re-evaluated. Whatever one might think of him. Mr Simpson had faced and been acquitted by a cross-section of his peers. The Fifth Amendment to the American Consti-tution, following the path set by traditional English common law, states clearly that no person shall "be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy". To all intents and purposes O. J. Simpson was tried twice for the same crime. rather than imprisonment as the potential punishment.

In effect, a suburhan non-black jury was given the chance to overrule the decision of an urban blackmajority body. That was wrong in principle, just as it was a distortion of American law for the four police officers acquitted of assault charges in the Rodney King case to be retried in a different court for essentially the same crime, with assault redefined as a violation of Mr King's civil rights.

Thile the sensational specifics of the Simpson case are unique and unlikely to be repeated, four much broader problems have been exposed. First, the prediliction of the Californian criminal justice system for permitting cameras in court. This comes from an extraordinary West Coast Interpretation of the Constitution that has transformed the Sixth Amendment guarantee of a "public trial" into an invitation bordering on obligation to the media. Other states have rightly rejected this extrapolation of the founding fathers' intentions. California should consider its position anew.

The second is the light shed on what can only be described as legalised jury-rigging. Both prosecution and defence in each case expended enormous efforts in trying to design a panel that would be sympa-thetic. In the criminal trial the prosecution pushed for women, the defence for blacks. The result was a majority of black women. Present arrangements allow both sides far too much influence. They are not

good for real justice. The third is the blurring and blending of the once much sharper distinction between civil and criminals cases. The King and Simpson events typily a trend in which advocates adopt a pick-and-mix approach between the two, according to whatever best suits their optimal strategy. It is not a practice that shows much respect for the rights outlined so

forcefully in the US Constitution. Finally, the broader activities and ethics of the legal profession itself cannot be tolerated. The costs for all sides in this affair have been extortionate. The lawyers will be the prime beneficiaries. It has given the impres-sion that the quality of a judicial outcome depends on a client's financial power. The enthusiasm with which the various attorneys then succeeded in supplementing their already vast fees through books. interviews, even commemorative merchandise, is not something that either the California or American Bar

Action lies predominantly at the state level. Nonetheless, it is possible for Washington to give a lead. Both the President and the First Lady have practised law. A clear majority of Congress have attended law school. The time has come for them to call for the clean-up of their former profession. The Simpson case has had many tragic twists. Not the least of them is that America's deep rever-P-H-S

ence for the law as an impartial force for good has been damaged, perhaps beyond repair.

Association can continue to permit.

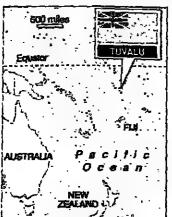
and the Somme. Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, said his

◆ An attack of self-respect has overcome the Duchess of York. She has rejected a request to present Top of the Pops. Having checked how much the BBC was offering. her office said: "It's not something

Reunion Jack

down in the South Pacific. Yesterday, after 18 months of po-faced independent posturing, the nine-island archipelago of Tuvalu put the Union Jack back on its flag. It is believed to be the first time the Flag has been reinstated by any country; for this, we must thank Jeremy Hanley, the increasingly broadbeamed Minister of State at the

To celebrate 17 years of self-rule in 1995. Tuvalu, the former Gilbert





appeared to be taking the first step towards full, republic status. mer Conservative Party chairman. who visited Funafuti, the capital of

Tuvalu late last year. Aside from being one of the world centres for telephone sexlines because of its



Chief: Jeremy Hanley

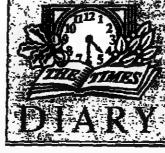
short dialling code, Tuvalu's distinction is that it never rises more than 17ft above sea level. Hanley, who would have made an impressive grass-skirted chief-tain, asked the Chief Minister: "What is the highest point in Funafuti?" "Why. Minister," he

was told, "you are the highest point in Funaturi Hanley's party was so well received that the decision was made to reinstate the Union Flag. Note to the Palace: any chance of a stop in Funafuti being included in Britannia's last voyage?

Cold words

PLEADING poverty the other day. the Royal Opera House announced that cut-price children's matinees would have to go because to a shortfall of £90,000. My suggestion is that they approach Sir Jeremy Isaacs, the former general director who stepped down at the end of last year.

Sir Jeremy is still being paid by the opera house and will continue to receive a pay cheque until July. His income during these months of absence is estimated to amount to more than £50,000. Yesterday a well-paid PR man was on hand at the opera house to make no comment. Sir Jeremy, who is making a documentary on the Cold War for

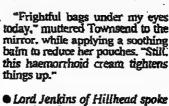


CNN, is unmoved by pleas from Covent Garden: "To enable Genista McIntosh (his successor) to get on with the job. I have given up executive functions at the RHO some months before the expiry of my contract in September 1997. It is not unusual in such circumstances, I believe, for the contract to be paid out."

Oldie bags THE SECRET of the ladies' pow-

der room emerged yesterday at Simpson's-in-the-Strand where Baroness Castle of Blackburn was nominated Oldie-of-the-Year.

Mavis Nicholson, chairman of the judges, related over a bibulous lunch how at the same event the previous year, she had bumped into Adrian Mole's creator, Sue Townsend, in the loo.



yesterday of a letter received at his home from the Conservative Party chairman Brian Mawhinney, asking for E20 for party funds. The let-ter was addressed to a Ms M Jenkins. "It appears that he will approach anyone to get £20." Jen-kins said. For the Conservatives. Lord Cranborne said the unusual form of address proved Mawhinney's belief in a classless

Mucking out

THE DUKE of Westminster, who left the Conservative Party in disgust over its plans for lessehold reform, is clearly in no mood to es had been "prudent".

On Tuesday night, speaking at the National Farmers' Union dinner in London before its annual conference, he took BSE as his theme and lashed the Government, accusing it of "incompetence of mind-blowing proportions". He compared ministers to the First World War generals responsible for the massacres at Passchendaele



Its O.J. He wants \$8.5 million for the film rights to his life story

decision to leave before the speech-

the Duchess would do.

-Imen

Justin



GOING, GOING

Sotheby's must act fast before its reputation has wholly gone

From Cambodia and China to Iraq and involvement of Sotheby's employees in art Italy, the smuggling of antiquities and works of art is a flourishing illegal business. The lesson for local legislators is everywhere a difficult one: the more draconian the restrictions that are set on legitimate exports, the more active and well-organised the smuggling is likely to be. China, which has a blanket export ban on all but very recent objects, is being pillaged on a massive scale, in some case with the collusion of corrupt officials. Italy, whose cultural inheritance is similarly rich and large, faces similar problems with policing its law requiring export licences for any work that predates 1939.

Britain, by contrast, operates the liberal. Waverley rules which impose a delay on the export of particularly important works in order to give the nation a chance to match the price offered by a foreign bidder. That strikes a fair balance between the public interest in keeping truly "national" treasures in the country, respect for private property rights and the belief that art is for the world to enjoy, regardless of frontiers.

This carefully calibrated policy has also made Britain a mecca for the legal international market, helping to establish the global pre-eminence of such great auction houses as Sotheby's and Christie's. But it is not only opportunity that has built their businesses; nor only their expertise; it is their reputation for honesty and integrity in the conduct of their business. The evidence of wrongdoing at Sotheby's which we start serialising today should therefore appalboth the art world and the Department of Trade and Industry. The practices uncovered range from the ethically questionable to the plainly illegal. The clear and direct to come back within the law.

smuggling, the subject of today's article, is inexcusable.

Recorded on tape and by a hidden camera. Roeland Kollewijn, a Sotheby's Old Masters expert in Milan, undertakes to organise the illegal export of a painting by the 18th-century northern Italian artist Giuseppe Nogari to London, for sale by Sotheby's there. At the London end, the painting is duly seen by a member of Sotheby's staff, entered for auction and sold. This classic journalistic sting is backed by a mass of documents and circumstantial evidence, from the Far East as well as Italy, indicating that this was not an isolated case involving one or two bad apples in an otherwise sound barrel. Mr Kollewijn, who treats the transaction as routine, claims the complicity of his colleagues, saying that if he were an Italian judge he would order wiretaps on Sotheby's in Milan because "they know it's happening all the time" and adding that "if I were in power I would arrest the whole lot" at the Milan office.

Last month the art squad of the Italian carabinieri, announcing a haul worth £25 million of smuggled antiquities illegally excavated from archaeological sites, accused "employees of important international auction houses" of acting as intermediaries. There must be grave doubts about Sotheby's proud claims to operate according to strict rules and to co-operate with governments and law enforcement agencies worldwide in the recovery of stolen or looted objects. The onus is on the company, and on the emment men and women on its board, to respond to these charges; if it cannot counter them, it should announce forthwith how it proposes

IRREVERSIBLE OPT-IN

Business should weigh the social chapter's true cost

Britain's opt-out from the social chapter, Labour's Shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, argued yesterday, serves Tory dogma and not national interests. Mr Cook repeated Labour's pledge to sign Britain up to the Maastricht treaty's seven enabling clauses on social affairs. On the previous evening in Brussels, the Prime Minister had not only defended the value of his social opt-out but blamed the Continent's high unemployment rate on over-regulation in general and the social chapter in particular.

John Major cannot be convicted of merely dogmatic repetition. He all too plainly believes his economic achievements to be under threat. But he tends to muddle different kinds of business burdens which inhibit the creation of new jobs in some continental economies. EU obligations make a relatively small contribution to employers' non-wage costs; more damage is done by intricate, accumulated welfare and labour rules established at national level. The Dutch Government lives with the social chapter; by starting its campaign to deregulate its national labour market in the 1980s, The Netherlands is posting job creation

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figures almost as good as Britain's. Britain's social opt-out in 1991 called a bluff. No sooner were the Maastricht treaty and its social protocol signed, than the flow of EU social legislation dried up. The regulatory climate in Brussels and continental capitals, although falling well short of realism, did change. Three directives have been passed under the social chapter: mandatory works councils for firms above a certain size, three months paid parental leave, and a shift in the burden of proof towards claimants in discrimination cases: Two other measures are under discussion: extending the works council rules to a much

greater number of companies and a law giving minimum rights on dismissal.

It is no defence of these laws that they will do less harm than some Conservative ministers might like to suggest. Mr Major told his audience in Brussels that "one signature on the social chapter would mean half a million signatures on the dole" - an assertion for which he has produced no evidence or calculation. The case against the social chapter goes far deeper than specific directives. Britain should retain its opt-out because the chapter provides an irreversible opportunity to pass anti-competitive and expensive law at any time. It is not impossible to reverse an EU directive, but no social legislation has yet been repealed.

Mr Major himself has already discovered that a mistake once made cannot be rectified: his retrospective attempt to exempt Britain from the directive limiting the working week to 48 hours stands little chance of success. The fact that there is relatively little law in the Brussels machine at the moment gives no guarantee about the quantity which might be processed in the future.

Businessmen in Britain trying to work out what the social chapter might mean for their companies may turn for consolation to various statements from the Opposition hinting that a Labour government will protect business from damaging EU law. But directives under the broad headings of equal opportunities, "working conditions" and "information" can be passed under the social chapter by majority vote. The freedom to choose the social law appropriate to a national bargaining culture, business environment and legal system - a freedom perfectly compatible with an open EU market - lies in the flexible arrangement which Britain enjoys at present.

THE TWO CLINTONS

The President returns to his days of failure

With his Republican opponents applauding through gritted teeth and a television audience impatiently awaiting a verdict in the O. J. Simpson case, Bill Clinton delivered the first State of the Union address of his second term. The President spoke for a full hour, offering six main sections and at least 36 separate sub-clauses. Although not quite as lengthy as his 80 minute effort in 1995, it still tested the patience of the nation.

Republicans will not be alone in finding aspects of the early and unsuccessful Clinton tenure in the text he outlined. Then, as now, the President appeared to back so many diverse initiatives that it was hard to discern what, if anything, were his true priorities. Even in the area of education, which received the greatest share of Mr Clinton's attention, his ten-point plan covered swathes of different and often disconnected territory.

Rhetorical confusion will not, however, be the factor that most frustrates the Republican Speaker, Newt Gingrich, and the Senate Majority leader, Trent Lott. Their chief concern will be the relatively low profile Mr Clinton ascribed to a balanced budget. Congressional leaders hoped that the President would take this opportunity to lay out, in some detail, what cuts in the welfare state he would accept to attain fiscal balance. Details they got by the dozen - but

not on their preferred subject. The President did pledge his support for balancing the budget, but with his familiar caveat that popular programmes such as education, Medicare and environment spending must be preserved. That is rather like promising to abandon alcohol apart from beer, wine and spirits. Having made soothing noises as to principle and avoided the practical, he moved swiftly on to the evidently more exciting area of the Internet. More disturbingly still, the President, who

on the same occasion 12 months ago pronounced the "era of big government" to be over, seemed inclined to embrace its resurrection. Among his new proposals were tax credits for college tuition, additional Medicare services, and a new emphasis on the arts. All require greater government expenditure and added power for Washington over public life. Here again it appears that the failed President of 1993, banished during

the quest for re-election, has returned. Mr Clinton's version of the US budget will be unveiled today. Possibly, his expansive State of the Union address was intended to offset what will be a dry and disciplined document. The moves that might permit all sides to reach an economic accord will. perhaps, he buried in the hundreds of pages that he publishes. If so, Mr Clinton, Mr Gingrich, and Mr Lott should be capable of seeking compromise in a more constructive fashion than that which shaped their last, disastrous, attempt. Co-operation on many other elements of domestic and foreign affairs would then be much enhanced.

The less appealing possibility is that the President could choose to evade hard choices and rely on implausibly optimistic economic forecasts instead. In that case, Republicans would be rightly furious. They would see no point in bartering with the White House. Little of long-term value would be achieved in this term. It for the President to decide.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Hurd replies on Serbian contacts

From Mr Douglas Hurd, MP for Witney (Conservative)

Sir. I agree with your leading article of February 4, which carries the subtitle, The world must speak to Belgrade with one voice". You refer specifically to my own attitude. I have made it clear in public and private that I wholly support the line taken by Malcolm Rifkind, namely that Mr Milosevic should recognise fully the results of the Serbian municipal elections.

Last year, after signature of the Dayton Agreement and the lifting of sanctions, it seemed possible that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia had decided to move towards economic and political liberalisation. It is very much in the interests of the West that they should do so. In those circumstances it was legitimate for an international Western bank to offer to help in carrying through this

in recent weeks, Mr Milosevic moved consistently in the opposite direction, with lamentable results for his people. It is too soon to be sure from yesterday's announcement how far that movement has been reversed.

In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia economic and political reform must go hand in hand. For example, privatisation of telecommunications has to take place within a framework approved democratically by parlia-ment. More widely the FRY cannot begin to prosper economically or cope with its sovereign debts without a transformation of the political cil-

Only after such a transformation can outsiders give effective help. As was widely reported in the press over the weekend, NatWest Markets has made this view clear to the FRY minis-

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS HURD (Deputy Chairman, NatWest Markets), 12 Redan Street, W14. February 5.

Service pensions

From Major-General P. R. F. Bonnet, General Secretary of the Officers' Pensions Society

Sir, The Shadow Chancellor's announcement (report, February 5) of his intention to freeze the salaries of senior ranks of the Services for one year takes no account of the fact that pay but also their pensions.

Unlike Cabinet ministers and MPs who determine such matters, and others in the public service, Service pensions are based on salaries in force on the day of retirement. Servicemen who retire during the freeze would thus be penalised, not just for the one year of the freeze but for the remainder of their lives. Their widows will be similarly penalised.

These severe and unintended longterm consequences of the Shadow Chancellor's proposal can be resolved by deeming that, for pension purposes, the increased salaries had been awarded - a measure which has been allowed in the past in the interests of

Yours faithfully P. R. F. BONNET, General Secretary Officers' Pensions Society 68 South Lambeth Road. Vauxhall, SW8. February 5.

Net Book Agreement

From Lady Elizabeth Longman

Sir, I was heartened to read your report (January 29) that Auberon Waugh and Tom Stoppard were protesting in the Restrictive Practices Court against a move by the Director-General of Fair Trading to scrap the Net Book Agreement.
As President of the Publishers Asso-

ciation in the Sixties, my late husband, Mark Longman, fought and helped win, on behalf of most serious publishers, the battle to retain this important ruling. It is sad to read that the Publishers Association has withdrawn from the action and that it is left to a few literary stalwarts to try and convince the court that surely it is in the public interest to retain the agreement for the very good reasons so emphatically expressed by those mentioned in your report. May others

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH LONGMAN, The Old Rectory, Todenham, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire. February 2.

Golden the light

From Mr L. J. Rowe

Sir, There can be few who have been immortalised by a future Poet Laureate, as was Mylanwy Evans, later Piper (obinuary, January 24). I was surprised, therefore, to see no mention of John Beijeman's eloquent tributes to her as a young Oxford contemporary ("Golden the light on the locks of Myfanwy") in two love poems. Myfarmy and Myfanwy at Oxford, published in Old Lights for New Chancels (John Murray, 1940).

Yours faithfully, LESIJE ROWE Scrabster House, Thurso, Carthness. January 25.

prince is the Contracting of Addition Development List and is enther to the Scottin Confined Programme Point which may be safed from time to time

Changing terms of Burrell's bequest

From the Director of Glasgow Museums and Art Galleries

Sir, Magnus Linklater ("Burtell's will should still be done", January 30) appears to believe that the terms of bequests should never be changed. If so, he is wrong.

We believe we are doing what Sir William Burrell would have wished in changing circumstances. He originally willed that his collection should be housed 16 miles from the city because it was so polluted. He could not have predicted the effects of the Clean Air Act which in fact allowed the Burrell Gallery to be built in Glasgow itself.

Sir William certainly wanted his collection to be lent but only in Britain, because, as a ship owner, he did not trust ships. He could not have predicted the safety of air travel which now enables all the great museums of the world to lend freely to each other. We are sure he would want his col-

lection to join them. How could be have resisted a request to have items from his collection exhibited, for example, in the Louvre?

Yours faithfully, JULIAN SPALDING, Director, Glasgow Museums and Art Galleries, Art Gallery and Museum. Kelvingrove, Glasgow. February 4.

From Mr D. Maxwell Macdonald

Sir, The Burrell Collection is housed in its own building in Pollok Park, not in Poliok House as stated in Magnus Linklater's excellent article. Both house and park were given to the City of Glasgow by my mother in 1969 and the provision of a site for the Burrell building was an integral part of that

My mother's expressed wish was that the house should be maintained for the enjoyment of the public and as the home for her family's collection of Spanish and other paintings, to be known as "The Stirling Maxwell Collection" in memory of her father.

Until recently the City of Glasgow has kept Pollok House open to the

public; but last year it was decided to close it for the winter for economy reasons (after eight months of refurbishment). I have now heard that its planned Easter reopening has been deferred until late June at the earliest. One has to wonder whether it will open at

This is clearly another case of Glasgow seeking to ride roughshod over the wishes of a benefactor. I wholeheartedly agree with Mr Linklater's exhortation to the members of the par-

liamentary commission to bear in mind the far-reaching reverberations of a decision to alter the terms of Sir

William Burrell's will. Yours faithfully, DONALD MAXWELL

MACDONALD, 55 Park Walk, SW10. January 30.

From Dr Norman H. Tennent

Sir, William Burrell was not only a great art collector but also a wise one. He correctly identified the threat of pollution to museum collections and insisted that his collection be located so as to protect it from Glasgow's industrially-generated pollution (now largely replaced by the hazards of pol-

lution from motor vehicles).
In stipulating that his collection should not travel abroad, he also astutely anticipated the dangers posed to art collections in transit. He would no doubt have been gratified that preventive conservation is now at the heart of the care of museum collections and that many specialists are researching ways to minimise the damage which collections may suffer

as the result of air transport.
It is all the more sad, therefore, that Mr Spalding is seeking not only to change the terms of Sir William's bequest in order to allow loans abroad, but that he is also proposing unjustifiably drastic cuts to his well respected team of 14 fully qualified conservators. These cuts, if enacted, would leave but three professional conservators and no experts in preventive conservation.

It seems that Sir William anticipated only some of the hazards to

Yours sincerely, N. H. TENNENT (Chief Conservation Scientist, Glasgow Museums, 1975-87), The Netherlands Institute for Cultural Heritage, Gabriel Metsustraat 8, 107] EA Amsterdam. January 30.

From Mr Henry Hely-Hutchinson

Sir, Perhaps Members of Parliament might consider whether some time limitation should be placed on the wishes of all benefactors. Where there are strings, there is no gift.

Yours faithfully, HENRY HELY-HUTCHINSON, 22 Kylestrome House, Cundy Street, SWI. February 2.

Rippon in the Lords From the Leader of the

House of Lords

Sir. Your full obituary of Lord Rippon of Hexham (January 30) made only a passing reference to his career in the House of Lords. Whatever the future of the second chamber, Lord Rippon made a unique contribution to our procedures which deserves the thanks of all members of our House.

Early in the 1990s Lord Rippon was strumental in setting up the House of Lords Delegated Powers Scrutiny Committee, and he was its first chairman from 1992 until ill-health forced him to resign in 1995. That committee is now firmly established within the work of the House and is highly respected - and indeed feared throughout Whitehall. A valuable increase in parliamentary control of the executive has been the result.

In 1994 Lord Rippon chaired an informal group which made a number of recommendations for the better management of the work of the House: more Friday sittings, an informal 10pm cut-off for controversial business, new time limits for certain debates and, most significantly, an increase in the consideration of Bills in committees off the floor of the House.

These have all proved useful mechanisms to assist what is still an amateur and unpaid House more effectively to scrutinise the legislation put before it.

Lord Rippon had great experience and technical knowledge of the legislative process. He also managed to combine tact with authority. It was an irresistible combination.

Yours faithfully. CRANBORNE House of Lords. February 3.

Valid vows

From Mr Robin Spon-Smith

Sir, I suspect that Rod Earnshaw and Shirley Wilson are more concerned about the validity of their putative marriage (report and letter, February in civil law than in ecclesiastical

For the purposes of a marriage according to the rites of the Church of England, the Marriage Act 1949 requires the presence of a clerk in Holy Plainly that expression does not em-

brace a person masquerading as a dergyman, however well intentioned that person and whether or not the parties to the "ceremony" were aware of the deception.

Yours truly, ROBIN SPON-SMITH, l Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, EC4. February 3.

From Mr Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North (Conservative), and the Right Reverend the Abbot of Ealing

To date, £153,400 has been raised, not a penny of which has been spent on administration. The money is being used in three ways: a memorial plaque, which was unveiled by the Duchess of Kent and Lucien Law-

Pews and popcorn

From Mr Russell Doust

Sir. Mr John Lee's proposal (letter, February 5) that churches might charge for admission to colour-coded pews, with the red ones nearest the altar being the dearest, deserves the support of vicars and especially church treasurers.

However, he is mistaken in thinking that the front pews are the most favoured and therefore should be the most expensive. It is clear from my observations, carried out over many years in many churches, that it is the seats at the back which fill up first and which surely should cost more. It is usually latecomers who have to sit under the eye of the vicar in the less popular front pews.

Yours faithfully. RUSSELL DOUST. The Vineries, Howe Street,

Philip Lawrence

Sir, The Times reported on December 11, 1995 (see also letter same day), that we had launched, on behalf of our community in Ealing, the Philip Lawrence Memorial Fund to commemorate the great life and work of Philip Lawrence, former Headmaster of St George's Catholic School, Maida Vale, murdered when he went to the aid of a pupil, and to support his widow. Frances, and their family.

rence and dedicated by Cardinal Basil

Nr Great Waltham, Essex. Hume (report and picture, December Yours faithfully, 9, 1996); scholarships and bursaries for the school; but most of the money

children, who are surely the greatest memorial to Philip Lawrence, his bravery and his ideals. We are closing the fund today and on behalf of Frances Lawrence and ourselves we should like to thank everyone who so generously contrib-uted. The beneficial effects of their

will help Frances Lawrence and her

generosity will continue. Yours etc. HARRY GREENWAY. House of Commons. LAURENCE SOPER, OSB. Ealing Abbey, W5 2DY. February 3.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faced to 0171-782-5046.

Support plea for organic farming

From Sir Julian Rose

Sir, Far from restoring public confidence in the wake of the BSE crisis, the creation of a "food safety chief" (report, January 30; letters, January 31) seems to me to be destined to become just another sorry example of political posturing. It will do nothing to revive faith in UK food production and is more likely to provoke a further rash

of public cynicism. It is to be ardently hoped, therefore, that the next government to take office is willing to get to the root of the prob-lem by channelling taxpayers' money into a thorough overhaul of the inten sive farming systems that lie behind so many food-related crises — systems that continue to drain the exchequer, undermine public health and block

genuine sustainability. As an organic farmer on 850 acres I suggest a new government could do no better than respond to the wishes of discerning citizens to see their money put towards supporting extensive organic farming systems founded on a long-term, caring and integrated ap-proach to land and animal manage-

Britain already lags well behind other European countries in terms of financial support for organics, and timely investment could perhaps have averted the tragedy of BSE and saved the country at least £3.3 billion over three years, to cite just one example.

Must we now wait for another catastrophe before finally taking the positive steps that are so clearly called

Yours sincerely, JULIAN ROSE, Hardwick House Whitchurch, Reading, Berkshire. February 4.

Early shopping malls

From Dr Ann Saunders

Sir, The Strand Exchange was not London's — or indeed England's — first shopping mall, as you seem to suggest in your leading article of February i on the discovery of Ben Jonson's masque. That distinction be-longed to Sir Thomas Gresham's Exchange in Cornhill, renamed the Royal Exchange by Queen Elizabeth in 1571. This venerable institution is now into its third incarnation, after destruction by fire in 1666 and 1838, and is now the home of the Guardian Royal

Exchange Assurance. Unfortunately, Gresham seems to have been too busy to have commissioned any dramatist of his own day to write an opening advertisement but Thomas Heyward gave it his full attention with The Fair Maid of the 'Change and If You Know Not Me, You Know Nobody which has Gresham, its protagonist, drinking Queen Elizabeth's health with a priceless

pearl dissolved in a cup of wine. The London Topographical Society is publishing a collection of 30 essays about the Royal Exchange this July, 1997 being the fourth centenary of the Exchange coming under the control of the City Corporation and the Mercers' Company. We hope it will be of interest to Londoners and to shoppers who live elsewhere. The discovery of the Jonson text shows just how important these Exchanges were to 16th and

17th-century London. Yours faithfully. ANN SAUNDERS (Hon Editor), London Topographical Society, 3 Meadway Gate, NWII.

Changeable?

Yours faithfully,

February 3.

I, A. WHITFIELD,

February 3.

From Mrs Irene Whitfield

Sir, Is this a record for global cooling? 20°C and snow in Bermuda, according to your table of temperatures (later editions) today.

Bill, book and candle

From Mr Michael Harbour

32 Pembroke Square, W8.

Sir, On seeing your picture today of Anglican clergy receiving self-defence lessons from the Northamptonshire Police I am now convinced the world has gone mad. I will not be surprised when policemen attend a course given by the clergy to learn sympathy, the value of virtuous conduct and how to pop around unexpectedly for tea and

MICHAEL HARBOUR. 58 The Verlands. Cowbridge, South Glamorgan. February 5.

Tunes of glory

From Mr L. Peacock

Yours faithfully,

Sir, Your report about music to inspire the England cricket team re-minded me of a similar exercise carried out in the team I once had the honour to represent - Woodlands CC. One piece of music was enough for us all - Send in the Clowns.

LESLIE ("Slasher") PEACOCK, 2 Horton Gardens. Woodhall Farm, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. February 5.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK February 5: The Queen this afternoon visited the MIND Centre, Heacham. Norfolk, and was re-ceived by the Chairman (Mr Philip

February 5: The Prince Edward, Trustee. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended "the Magnificent 7" Dinner at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel, Cadogan Place, London SWI. February 5: The Princess Royal President. British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, this afternoon visited Just Jamie Group. York Way, Kings Cross, London NI.

Her Royal Highness, Honorary Fellow, later opened a new extension of the Royal College of pent's Park London NWI STIAMES'S PALACE

bruary 5. The Prince of Wales, President, this morning attended the launch of the British Horse Society Jubilee Year at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend the Carers in Employment seminar on Good

Innovation Centre, Sunderland Enterprise Park, Wearfield,

Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, at 10.40; and will attend the

Newcastle Fund-raising luncheon at Merz & McLellan, Newcastle

Business Park, Newcastle upon

Tune, at 12.45, Later, as Patron of

the Basic Skills Agency, she will visit South Tyneside College, St George's Avenue, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, at 2.20.

Leonard Cheshire

The Prince of Wales has agreed to

become Patron of the disability charity The Leonard Cheshire

in 1998. The Prince's support was

announced by the charity's Chairman, Sir David Goodall, GCMG,

at a meeting of the trustees at Leonard Chesbire House, London SWI, on Wednesday, Pebruary 5.

Horners' Company

The following have been elected

officers of the Horners' Company

for the ensuing year:

ion, for its Golden Jubilet

Foundation

Today's royal

engagements

Geoffrey Harding **Memorial Lecture**

His Royal Highness later walked through part of the Kings Cross redevelopment area, receiv-

ing a briefing on its progress, and subsequently launched "Making

Mixed Use Happen", a joint urban

regeneration initiative of the Ur-ban Villages Forum and English

Gymnasium, Pancras Road, Kings

The Prince of Wales this after-

noon visited the Crown Estate

offices. Carlton House Terrace

February 5: The Duke of Gloucester, President, the Britain-Nepal

Society, this evening attended the Society's Annual Supper at St Columba's Church Hall, Pont

February 5: The Duke of Kent,

Patron, the Army Winter Sports Association, this evening attented

an Olympic reception at the Steffani Hotel, St Moritz

KENSINGTON PALACE

Street, London SWI.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

YORK HOUSE

London SW1.

The Right Rev David Jenkins, former Bishop of Durham, will deliver the Geoffrey Harding Me-morial Lecture on "Unfinished Business - The Pursuit of Health, the Practice of Healing and the Pilgrimage of Faith", at St Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, EC3, on Saturday, February 8, at 2pm. Entrance free.

Sherborne School for Girls The following Scholarship Awards

have been made by Sherborne School for Girls for September

The following girls have been offered awards: offered swarts:
Bleanor Morgan, First Scholarship,
SSG; Lara Moore, Second Scholarship. West Somerset Community
College; Anna de Winton,
Exhibtion, Clifton High School;
Victoria Hicks, Exhibtion, SSG;
Lucy Franklin, Exhibtion, SSG.

waster, Mr Charles K. Howe, Upper Warden, Mr Jeremy J. Cartwright; Renter Warden, Dr Leonard P. Smith. Today's birthdays

Today is the 45th anniversary of the accession of The Queen. Rabbi Lionel Blue, author and broadcaster, 67: Mr Nicholas Brett, publishing director, Radio 47; Sir Denys Buckley. Times, 47: Sir Denys Buckley, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 91: Mr Peter Cadbury, company chairman, 79: Mr Tim Ewart, broadcasser, 48: Mr John Flemming, FBA, Warden, Wadham College, Oxford, 50: Professor Roger Greenhalgh, vascular surgeon, 56: Professor J.E.C.

Hill, FBA, former Master, Balliol College, Oxford, 85; Miss Gayle Humnicuit, actress, 54; Mr Patrick MacNee, actor, 77: Mr George Mudie, MP, 52; Mr Denis Norden, scriptwriter and broadcaster, 75; Mr Manuel Orantes, tennis player, 48; Mr Ronald Reagan, former American President, 86; Mr Brian Simpson, MEP, 44; Mr Jimmy Tarbock, comedian, 57; Mr Fred Trueman, cricketer. 66; Mr Keith Waterhouse, writer, 68; Mr

Memorial service

Mr John Mackimum

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr John Duncan Mackinnon, a former Director of Smith St Aubyn, was held yes-terday at St Paul's, Knightsbridge. The Rev Christopher Courtauld

Mr Carel Mosselmans and Mr Bluey Mavroleon read the lessons and Mr Alistair Wallace gave a

Mr Robin Stormonth-Darling gave an address. Members of the family, many friends and former colleagues were among those

Dinner

London Goodenough Trust for Oversens Gradonies Sir Christopher Wates, Chairman of the London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates, and Major-General T.P. Toyne Sewell, director, received the guests at the annual education and science dinner held last night at Mecklenhurgh Square Dr Geoffrey Copeland, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of West-

minster, was the guest speaker.

Supper

The Britain-Nepal Society The Duke of Gloucester, President of the Britain-Nepal Society, was welcomed by Sir Neil Thorne, chairman, at the annual supper held last night at St Columba's Church Hall. Pont Street. The Nepalese Ambassador and Mrs Shrestha, Major-General J.A.R. Robertson, Lieutenant-Colonel H.C.S. Gregory, Colonel J.M. Evans, Lieutenant-Colonel C.G. Wy-lie, Brigadier A.B. Taggart and Mrs Celia Brown, vice-presidents, Mr Roger Potter, vice-chairman, and Mrs Pat Mellor, honorary secretary, were also present.

Lecture

Arbitrators' Comman Mr V.V. Veeder, QC, delivered the annual lecture of the Arbitrators Company held yesterday at Gray's Inn. Mr Douglas Smith, Master, presided and presented prizes for success in course examinations to Mr Andrew O'Connor and Mr Andrew Morgan of the inns of Court School of Law and to Mr Julian Kenny and Mir Sean O'Sullivan of the City University. Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Sir Michael Kerr and Justices of the Official Referee's Court among the guests.

Legal appointments Mr Justice Tuckey to be the Judge in Charge of the Commercial List from October 1, 1997, to September

Justice Colonia. Mr Justice Toulson to be a Presiding Judge of the Western Circuit from October 1, 1997, to December

31, 2001, in succession to Mr Mr Christopher Ian McGonigal to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the North Eastern Circuit. The Lord

Chancelor intends to designate him as a Circuit Mercantile Judge. He is the first solicitor to be appointed a Circuit Mercantile Judge. Two new Mercantile Court Lists are to operate in the North East from April, headed by Mr McGonigal.

The appointment of Mrs Rose-mary Melling as Chief Inspector, Magistrates' Courts Service Inspectorate, is to be extended. Mr David Swift to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Northern Circuit.



standing beneath regards potents of the philadinitopist Inomas Coram are representatives of some of the nuseums, galleries and other organisations who have joined forces to celebrate the 300th anniversary later this year of the artist's birth. The events start with an exhibition at the Tate Gallery next month. From left, Elizabeth Einberg (Tate Gallery), Christopher Woodward (Sir John Soane's Museum), Rhian Harris (Thomas Coram Foundation) and Brian Allen (Paul Mellon Centre)

Hyde Park's hidden past comes to the surface

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

George II, with new formal gar-

dens reaching north and south to the park boundaries. By 1736 land into been taken for the short-lived

menagerie, then converted to more

THE amoun sward of Hyde Park hides a complex history. A racecourse, menageric, and formal gardens are among the vanished features that have been detected by

"The Royal Paries present a variety of images, yet they all started life as rural parks," Paul Pattison told a recent conference on the archaeology of parks and gardens. From around the time of James 1 they gradually changed-from places open only to the élite to ones of public recreation and nent, but as protected information about the constant development which they have

undergone". That development remained un-That development remained un-studied by archaeologists until recently, Mr Pattison said, but work by the Royal Commission for Historical Monuments "has re-vealed a rich variety of archaeological leasures which complement the historical

Hyde Park was created in 1536. riyoe rark was created in 1330, four years after St James's and four years before Regent's Park, as a hunting preserve close to the King's London palace at Whitehall. While evidence of this early

created a long vista back to the palace. "This area of close-mown use remains in other royal parks, as at Richmond, it has not yet been seen in Hyde Park, where later developments have left more obgrass is visibly undulating and disturbed, and the ornamental ha-VALUE TO STATE STATES ha designed by Charles Bridgeman as the eastern edge of Kensington Gardens is still de-

"From the 1630s limited public access was permitted, and the emphasis shifted towards ornament and display, stimulated by the establishment of a circular finable as a low bank and ditch," Mr Pattison said Bridgeman's wandering paths; and plantings have gone, but William Kenth pavilion, the carriage track and racecourse on the eastern side of the park," Mr Printson said. Known as the Thur or the Ring, it became a fushion-able parade for high society until the 1730s: slight traces remain in "Queen's Temple", has survived on its low earthen mound above the Serpentine. Later, less obvious, and now detectable only with the earthworks and plantings".

When William III and Mary II remodelled Kensington Palace, the gardens were enlarged, a process continued under Queen Anne and surface probes, are the military establishments set up in the park during the Second World War.

during the Second World War.
"There were some ground features we couldn't explain, including a ladder-like pattern at the east end, near Park Lane," Mr Pattison said. "Then we got hold of some USAF air photos taken in 1941 and some later RAF photos." The ladder patterns were open airraid shelters, dug hurriedly after the Munich crisis in 1938.

gardens, including the creation of the Serpentine: today's Hyde Park overs only just over half the 621 acres recorded when Offwer Crom-Most curious were runnerous white dots in a regular pattern.
"We found that those were for a Z-banery, multiple rocket launchers to counter Hitler's VI flying bombs," Mr Patrison said. The final enlargement of the gardens into the old hunting park took in the higher ground of Buck. Hill, with a bastioned ha-ha, and

Church news

The Rev David Shrisunder: to be Honorary Assistant Priest. Cantley, Limpenhoe w Southwood and Reedham and Freethorpe. Halvergate w Tunstall and Wickhampton (Norwich).

The Rev Paul Simmonds, Vicar, St Andrew, Stockwell Green (Southwarkle to be also an Honorary Canon of Southwark Cathedral The Rev Stephen Sizer, Rector, Stoke next Guildford: to be Vicar, Virginia Water (Guildford).

The Rev Barry Smart, Assistant Priest, St Mary, Princes Risborough (Oxfords to be Assis-tant Priest, St Luke, Kingstanding and St Mark, Kingstanding The Rev Lorna Smith, Assistan

Curate, Addlessone to be Vicar, Englefield Green (Guildford). The Rev Terence Spong to be Anglican Chaplain (part-time), at Christchurch Hospital

The Rev Graham Stones, Curate Okchanapton: to be Vicar, Sid Valley Team Ministry (Excter). The Rev Vincent Strudwick, Principal, St Albanes and Oxford Ministry Course: now Assistant Curate, Sociated to the Rural Dean of Aylesbury, to serve in the desnery (Oxford).

Amniversaries

BIRTHS: Christopher Marlowe, drumatist, Camerbury, 1864; Anto-nio Vicira, Jesuit and mistionary, Lisbon, 1608; Antoine Arnauld, theologiam, Paris, 1612: Queen Anne reigned 1702-14, St James's Palace, London, 1665; Ugo Foscoli, poet and novelist, Zitkinchos, Greece, 1778; Sir Charles Wheat stone, physicist and inventor, Gloncester, 1902; Sir Hemy Irving, actor, Kennon Mandeville, Some-set, 1838; Frederic William Myers. poet and co-founder of the Society of Psychical Research, Keswick 1843; William Murphy, physician Nobel laureate 1934, Stoughood Wisconsin, 1892; George (Babe Wisconsin, 1872; George (Bahel Ruth, báseball champion, Bel-timore, Maryland, 1895; Rumon Novarro, silent film actor, Du-rango, Menico, 1899; Ciandio Arrai, pianist, Chillan, Chile, 1903; Wladyslaw Gomulka, Prime Minister of Poland 1956-70, Krosno, 1905; Bob Marriey, singer and songwriter, St Ann's, Jamaica, 1945.

1945.
DEATHS: Aldus Mantius, printer, Venice, 1515; King Charles II reigned 1660-85, London, 1685; Lancelor (Capability) Brown, landscape gardener, 1783; Carlo Goldoni, dramatist, Paris, 1793; Joseph Priestley, Presbyterian minister, chemist, discoverer of oxygen, Northumberland, Pennsylvania, 1804; Ruben Darid, poet, León, Nicarasus, 1916; Gustav. keón, Nicaragua, 1916; Gustivo Klimt, painter, Vienna, 1918; Ellen Wilkinson, trade unionist and politician, London, 1947; King George VI reigned 1936-52, San-dringham, Norfolk, 1952; Marchanita Lackl, writer,

London, 1988. King James II acceded to the throne, 1685. Seven members of the Manufaster United football team were among those killed in an air crash at Munich, 1958.

Prance and Britain agreed on the building of a Channel tunnel, 1964.

University news

Royal Holloway
The Council of Royal Holloway
has appointed three Vice-Principals from September 1:
Professor Robert Leibbridge (Academic Development), Professor John Turner (Planning & Resources), and Professor Francias Robinson (Research & Enterprise).

PRONE CALLS

India '

USA

Austria

Finland

Mauritius 88p

85p

53p

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. Betts and Miss LY. Bonfield

The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mr Jonathan Betts, of London, and Mrs Susanna Betts, of Vienna, Austria, and Lesley Yarden. daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Boofield, of Starnberg, Bavaria. Dr T.W.S. Cookson

and Dr A. Davies and Dr A. Davies
The engagement is announced between Toby, elder son of Dr and Mrs Gregory Cookson, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, and Ann, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs. Alim Davids of Clan Vine. Mrs Alum Davies, of Glen Vine,

isie of Man. Mr R.O.W.S. Douglas and Miss M. Pickles

The engagement is announced between Roderick, eldest son of the late Mr Ronald Douglas, of Kniwalca, New Zealand, and of Mrs Mollie Haynes, of Edinburgh, and Margaret, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Pickles, of St Albans.

Mr G.X. Gaget and Miss P.J. Lean

and Miss P.J. Lean
The engagement is announced
between Gerard Xzvier, elder son
of M and Mme Lucien Gaget, of
St Vincent de Mercine, France,
and Philippa Jane, only daughter
of Mrs D.A. Lean, of South Perrott,
Dorset, and Commander C.D.
Lean, retd, of London W4.

Mr J.C.H.J. Ings Chambers and Miss J.E. Fary

The engagement is amnounced between Julian, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Charles Ings-Chambers, of Kensington, London, and Jacqueline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Pury, of Sable, Mpumalangs, South Africa.

Mr RAJ. Lewis and Miss S.J. Hollo The engagement is announced between Roland, youngest son of

Mrs Roland Lewis and the late Dr Lewis, of Clarbeston Road, Pembrokeshire, and Sophia Jane Georgia), youngest daughter of Mr Martin Holloway, of Winsham, Somerset, and Mrs John Konig, of King's Somhorne,

Mr R.F. Mande and Sederite S. Laurred Rodrigues. The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Maude, of Devices, Wiltshire, and Silvia, younger daughter of Sefor and Señora Alejandro Lacurcel Ruiz, of Munic. Murcia, Spain.

Mr LL O'Bryan The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr David O'Bryan, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Joyce Burnham, of Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Clee, of Kempsey, Worcester. Dr C.E. Sulley

The engagement is announced between Christopher Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Sulley, of Cardiff, South Glamorgan, and Gillian Lesley, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard Martin, of Redear and Rosecule, North Yorkshire.

Leiostershire Lieutenancy

The following have been appointed Deputy Lieutenants for the County of Leicentershire:

Licensian Cokinel Ractura Murray Longair Colville, of Gienlield, Leiosster, Mr Richard Anthony Leiester: Mr Richard Anthony Spencer Everard, of East Farndon; Mr Gerrard Amaury Arnaud March Phillipps de Lisle, of Quenby; Mr Richard Miles Micklethwalt, of Preston; Mr John Michael Moubray, of Ridlington; and Mr Neil Francis Townsend, of Nationalsh

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Uphold the cause of the weak zight done to the afflicted and destitute. Fashs 82:3,4

DIAMOND

ARRESTRONG - On 31st january at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline (nos Gazzad) and John a daughter, Grace Isabella. A

BARDER - On 1st Pebruary 1997 at the Eoyal Berks Hospital, Reading, to Hospital, Reading, to Simon, a son, George Sam Derek, a brother for Alex, Mandy and Olivia.

1997, to Victor Code Inc. Lemon) and Eric, a son, year Darlus, a brother for Arabelle and Honor.

Demosity - On 13th January 1997, to journe and Sen, a pen. Telder Ogusid John.

FELTHAM - To Emma (née Harrison) and Dominic, on 4th February 1997, a sm., Fredezick, First grandchild to Ann and Feter Feldonia and third grandchild for Sichey and Eranda, All our love, the Numery family.

MORGAN - On February 1st at The Portland Rospital, to Huma (nos Recokman) and

to Gill (not Fewicaer) and in Gill (not Fewicaer) and james, a son, Edward John Sichard, a brother for Johnna, Alexandra and without

TARK-On February 3st at The Fortland Hospital, to Georgie and Jeremy, a beautiful daughter, Darcy, some for Canada and Mess.

6th February 1937 at &:
Full's Cathedral, Calcutta,
Lexile, of the Indian Civil
Service, to Lynatta, Now, and
for many years past, at
Fonley, West Byllest. DEATES

BARTON - Canon Aifred E on February 4th, after a short illness, aged 77. Funeral Ferrice st Carist Canada Cathedral, Oxford at 2.30 per on Mondry, February 10th, Solidowed by private interment at Cottleford. Pamily flowers only.
St Mary the Virgin,

BRIDGE - Suddenly on 3rd February 1997, Jean Chinery Bridge of Futnery, Summerly Cobban, Sunery, Summerly Cobban, Sunery, Widow of George, much loved and missed mother of John and Boben, Futneral Service at Fattery Val. Contamination on Thunsday 13th February at L45pm. Fatally Rowers only. Doubtions if desired to the British Heart Foundation of Askirth Methics, 221 Upper Richmond Road, Patney, London SWIR 482.

Suddenly on 29th January, 1997 at Salisbury District Sorgital Much loved since of Patricia Ridner, Rossmary Serry and the late Sarbara Carpenter Turnez Funezal Service at Salisbury Cathedral on Monday 10th February, 1997 at 11:30 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Mencap c/o LM. Newman Ltd., Sriftin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, 112.

COSSART - Charlle GOSSART - Charile on February 4th 1997 at Uppusk as the assult of a tragic actions much adored your of John and Bettl and lowing brother of Mouse and Trad Passal

DAVIDE - Thever john, on 3rd February 1997. Most beloved better of Jestin and adored better of Jestin Piers and Flona. Thanksgiving Service on Satunday 1st March, 230pm, Church of St Mary the Virgin, Aldermaston.

Pescafully on 1st February 1997 aged 88 years at Allenbrook Nursing Bones, February 1997 aged 88 years at Allenbrook Nursing Bones, February 1997 at 8 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired for light Curic Care Care ob LE. Newman Ltd., Griffin Bouse, 55 Winchester, Street, Salisbary, Witshise, 97 1 Hr.

JENKINS - Pancefully on Saturday February 1st at Hondfield Hongfield Tennot Michael Jentine of Chilmen Hondfield Hongfield February 1st at Hondfield Hongfield Hondfield Hondfie Highin Commercy, Named of Novement and please, and the second and Development Appeal may be sent to David J Bights, Funeral Director, 96 Walsworth Econd, Hitchin, Berns, SC4 980, bat (01462)

infol-off. The - Earthern Invasion to 1990; Jeanny preserving at Chering Cone Boughal Pennsul of Patron Valle Crematorium Watnesday 12th February at 10,50 am.

MARDI. - George Thomas, MRI.
FRSA, on 4th Relating in
Glarus Heapital,
Someoinal Fast Master of
the Stationers Company,
Josef Masterd of Glatic and
beather of Acts. Mesocold
Service in London to be

PERSONAL COLUMN DEATES DEAN - The Revd. Canon Mercice percently at 3rd February 1997. Seloved hasband of Bachan, deeply loved checked of Robinsh and leobe, devoted guandfather of Philippa, Christopher and Jonathan. Faneral at 5r Harry Castle on Seranday 15th February at 3 pm. Donations if desired to 3 Mercical Bospice. Hereford, clo Holland manual and 7 Bachards Green Road, Maleur, House, Mariant Green, Road, Maleur, More, Mariant Green, Road, Maleur, Maleu

MITCHELL - David, aged 82.
Emeritus Fellow of Worcester Callege, Oxford, on 2nd February 1977 at the John Endeliffe Hospital. Hogh loved hundand of ladens, develot arrive at Worcester College on Monday 10th February at 2pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Empedial Concer Research Fund, Oxfordabirates in 1981. The College of the PSS Oxfordabirates in 1981. The Service will be bedd lame.

MULLIMS - Point Joseph, 66 years, of Ginals, Vertell, South of France and 6 Woodridings Avenue, Batch for, France, Males, Daniel and Gently on holiday in humber of the Point Park of the Point of the Point Park of the Park of the Point Park of the Point Park of the Park

Egenti - Peccefully on 4th Pebruary 1997 Jame Katherine (nde Todd). Beloved wife of the late Lt. Col. Peter Regulez, Durling Reloved wise of the late Lt. Col. Peter Regular, Darling, mother of Susan, Research, Chushal and Andrés, Insell loved mother: In-law and grandmother. Requires Mass on Susan Bloom Susan In-Bound of Susan In Both Children Fund. Requires and domains to Dolman's (01226) 444110.

MCHARDS - Dr. Hagh of Old Mitro Court, suddenly on Pebruary 2nd. Private Amphil, no flowers planes. Memorial Service to be

SHORT - The law, I seemed died 3rd February aged 64 mter many years of painful diseas. He is survived by his wide Pip and son Chris. Funeral Service in 9t without Cares, beginner, Destrythire, on Saturday 16th February at II am, followed by laterment. Flowers suitable for hospital or denstions to Fraull Surgery Medical Fund of AM. I your Person Service, Derwent House, Becket Street, Duby UEI 18th.

and the contract of the contra

Americ (nos Pricker) on February Ind pescafully in her sleep aged 88 years, believed with at Tokas and mother to John, David, Richard, Catherine and Nicholas. He flowers.

SPEARMAN - Clement CSE (AM Diplomatic Service rethred) on 3nd February posteriol) on 3nd February posteriol) on 3nd February posterius; at Triaity Bossis and 7 time and library at Triaity Bossis and County. In the service and Elizhard, Econey at Montaine County Levine at Montaine County at 2 pm. No flower but donations if family 14th Physics and County Respice, 30 Chejham County Respice, 30 Chejham County Respice, 30 Chejham County Respice, 3nd Respiration, all their friendship, care and kindness.

histones.

Day-Landbache there a short illiness at St George's Houseast, Tooting, Present Service on Wednesday Fouragery 12th at 2 pm at Handalls Crematorium, Lenbetheed, Survey, In Headetheed, Treatmen, Widght Ward, Cardiology Department, St. George's Hospital

Hargest
TATION BROWN - William
New Testes Brown Ch stad
peacefully in St Mary's
Hospital, Paddington, on
Sunday 2nd Petrumy aged
86. Funeral St Andrew's
Church, Lirtle Berkinstend,
on Wednesday 12th
Ferring 2 pm.
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WHITE - John Hardinge, formerly of Steeple Asies Committee at Pairfield Palacent Same to Orion on let February 1977, a few days before his 87th highlight. THANKSGIVING

IN MEMORIAM -

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well sold it in 1652.

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Pamela Harriman, US Ambassador to France since 1993, died yesterday in Paris after a stroke aged 76. She was born on March 20, 1920.

The former daughter-in-law of Sir Winston Churchill, Pamela Harriman was one of the great courtesans of her age. Those, however, who saw her simply as some sort of reincarnation of Madame de Pompadour ignored the very real talent for organisation and flair for moneyraising that she put at the service of the Democratic Party - and particularly of Bill Clinton - during the days of the Reagan and Bush Administrations.

She was one of the moving spirits behind the centrist Democratic Leadership Council - most of the fundraising functions of which were held at her grand house in Georgetown - and her reward for all the support she had given to the new President came when he nominated her to the Paris Embassy in 1993. She served there with flair and distinction, more than making up in style what she may have lacked in detailed diplomatic knowledge.

There was, however, a darker side even to the latter part of Pamela Harriman's life. She became conspicuously rich in her own right only after the death in 1986 of her third husband Averell Harriman, the former Ambassador to Moscow and Governor of New York. He left her the guardian of his fortune, though with some trust provisions for his grandchildren deriving from his first marriage. She was soon engaged in an angry dispute with their lawyers and trustees over the apparent draining away of very aubstantial assets. She eventually launched an action against her own lawyer, the classic Washington insider Clark Clifford, whom she dismissed, and claimed to have reached an undisclosed out-of-court settlement with her husband's two daughters and their descendants.

This well-publicised episode cast a cloud over her tenure of the Paris Embassy, at one stage even threatening to force her resignation. She was not in any event expected to remain in Paris throughout President Climon's second term. having a year ago in an interview with The Washington Post intimated that she was tired of living in the public eye and was ready to go home to Washington.

Pamela Beryl Digby, as she was before her first marriage to Randolph Churchill at the age of 19 in 1939, was the eldest daughter of the 11th Baron Digby. Brought up at Minterne Magna; a great house in Dorset, she had the typical upbringing of a society girl of her era. Not much attention was paid to her education period, she did go away to a boarding school in Norfolk - and most of the family's efforts were bent to organising her coming-out.

Her debutante season was not, however, strikingly successful. Described by one of John F. Kennedy's sisters as "a fat. stupid little butterball", she landed no husband and allowed herself to be compromised by two notorious liaisons with the young Earl of Warwick and Philip Dunn, the heir to the Canadian steel magnate and friend of Lord Beaverbrook, Sir James Dunn, When, after the 1938 season, the family moved back from Carlos Place, Mayfair, to the country, there was no serious suitor in view.

All that changed in September 1939 when, while working as a French translator at the Foreign Office (she had been to a finishing school in Paris), she met through a flatmate the already distinctly louche son of the then First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill. She was later to claim that he had "swept her off her feet" - and certainly they were married within three weeks leven more helpfully a son, Winston, followed within a year, providing her with her lasting passport to the Churchill family).
The marriage itself, though, soon

foundered - thanks more to Randolph's reckless gambling than to anything else and the young wife and mother was soon under the protection of Lord Beaverbrook to whom she had appealed for help with her husband's debts. It was through Beaverbrook - who had taken her over to Chequers where Winston Churchill, now Prime Minister, spent the weekends (when he was not at Ditchley) - that she first met the man who had just come over to Britain as President Roosevelt's special lend-lease envoy. W. Averell Harriman was then nearly

50, quite old enough to be Pamela's father. There seems, however, to have been an instant mutual attraction and in a matter of weeks the young English redhead and the experienced American tycoon and statesman were sleeping together. The connivance of Winston and Clementine Churchill in the face of this arrangement - which clearly possessed political advantages in terms of the Anglo-American Alliance—effectively put paid to whatever slight chance there was of salvaging the marriage to Randolph. (He and Pamela

were divorced in 1946.) But there could, at least at that stage, be no question of marriage to Harriman. Already on to his second wife - his first marriage, from which there were two daughters, had ended in divorce in 1929 he nurtured political (even presidential) ambitions, and a wedding to an English divorcée would not have helped those. By - though, slightly unusually for the the time Harringan was posted to Moscow

PERSONAL COLUMN



PAMELA HARRIMAN

as US Ambassador in 1943, the relationship had already cooled somewhat (not least because of an ultimatum issued by Harriman's second wife Marie, who had learnt about the affair even in New York).

For Pamela it was time to go on to pastures new: she held the ideal post for that purpose, helping to run what was known as the Churchill Club in Ashburnham House (the elegant 17th-century building belonging to the then evacuated Westminster School) in Little Dean's Yard, SWI. Designed as a refuge for cultivated English-speaking servicemen of all ranks, the club offered her a marvellous entrée to the more select elements of Anglo-American society. She took full advantage of it, embarking on sexual relationships with the former New

York socialite (and later Ambassador to London), Jock Hay Whitney; an American Air Force General, Frederick L. Anderson; William Paley, the president of CBS; Sir Charles (later Lord) Portal, the head of the RAF's Bomber Command; and, above all, Ed Murrow, the London correspondent of CBS News.

In this galere Murrow was very much the odd man out. He was neither rich nor, in the conventional sense, illustrious or distinguished. But there seeems little doubt that at this stage of her colourful and variesated career, he was the man whom Pamela wished to marry. There was, however, a snag - he was married and his wife had just produced a baby son. In the end, the ties of fatherhood proved too much for Murrow and, though

she pursued him to New York, Pamela had finally in the spring of 1946 to face the fact that their affair was over.

The next few years were probably her bleakest. With her only real asset the Churchill surname — and encumbered with a sometimes neglected son of five she seemed to be facing an unpromising future. Lord Beaverbrook, who had always been a faithful friend, initially took pity on her by offering her a job on the Londoner's Diary of the Evening Standard. But journalism did not prove to be her metier and it was only the glamorous datelines with which she was rewarded that enabled her to embark on the second phase of her life as an appendage of European café society.

Her first conquest was Prince Aly Khan, whom she met while covering the ball be annually gave following the Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp. That year, 1947, his horse Avenger had won at 33-1 and he was in suitably ebullient mood when he met the shining advertisement for English sex appeal and asked her to dance. The inevitable followed — though this time, in contrast to the painful and protracted love affair with Murrow, she seems to have been under no illusion that it was any more than a fling.

That was not, however, true of her much longer association with Gianni Agnelli, whom she first encountered on the terrace of Aly Khan's house in the South of France. The heir to the Fiat fortune, he was at that stage unmarried, but it was probably always unrealistic for her to hope that he would contemplate matrimony with someone who was neither a cradle Catholic nor Italian and who had been divorced as well (though by 1953 she had succeeded, after converting to Catholicism, in getting her marriage to Randolph annulled in Rome). But if that was her last throw of the dice to capture Agnelli, it did not work. That autumn Agnelli married an Italian aristocrat, whom he had made pregnant, and Pamela was forced to come to terms with the tough lesson that the past four years of her life had been wasted.

Moving back to Paris she found consolation under the protection of Elie Rothschild of the French Rothschild banking family and proprietor of the famous Château Lafite vineyard. This time her sole aspiration can only have been to be accepted as a maîtresse en titre - he was already married and there was anyway none of the excitement that had attended her life with Agnelli. But their relationship lasted six years and again it was not Pamela who ended it.

But in doing so, Elie Rothschild probably did her a good turn. By 1958 she had spent a decade in France and it was time to move on. She did so by returning to New York, where she had once hoped to live with Ed Murrow. It proved to be a fortunate choice. Invited to the theatre by her old flame, Bill Paley, she took along as her escort a man she had never met before (but whose wife she knew), the theatrical agent and Broadway producer of musical shows such as South Pacific and Call Me Madam, Leland Hayward. That same night - as they reported laughingly to their host they had left the theatre at the interval) - they were in bed together. Two vears later. Hayward having in the meantime divorced his wife, they were

married. The marriage, which lasted for II years before Hayward's death in 1971, was a happy one — marred only, in an ominous foretaste of things to come with the Harriman family, by an acrimonious dispute with her second husband's child-

ren over his property.
Six months after she had been widowed Pamela married the man with whom she had conducted her wartime affair 30 years earlier. Averell Harriman's second wife. Marie Whitney Harriman, had died the year before, so their meeting again originally at Katharine Graham's home Washington - could have been regarded as providential. Harriman was, by the time of their marriage in September 1971, nearly 80 and much troubled by deafness, Nevertheless, he himself was to say at his 90th birthday party in 1981: The happiest years of my life have been with Pam."

He died five years later in 1986, leaving a \$30 million trust fund to be distributed in 25 years' time among his grandchildren, \$4,000 each to his daughters and virtually everything else, including his property, pictures and a fortune of at least \$66 million, to his wife. No member of Harriman's family felt disposed to challenge the will but things took an uglier legal turn when it was suggested that she had mismanaged and squandered the assets forming the trust fund due to his grandchildren. This dispute was apparently settled last year, though not without Pamela Harriman having to sell some celebrated impressionist paintings and being forced to agree to pursue her own former business and legal advisers jointly with the original plaintiffs to the action.

She found consolation in the profession al impression she created throughout the nearly four years which she spent representing the United States in France. Rather touchingly, the entire bravura display had been made possible only by her decision to take out American citizenship as a wedding present to her third (and easily wealthiest) husband.

She is survived by her only child. Winston Churchill, the Conservative MP for Davyhulme.

RONALD FOWLER



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ronald Fowler, CBE, economic statistician. died on January 5 aged 21, 1910.

RONALD FOWLER will be remembered as the statistician who established the Retail Prices Index and the Family Expenditure Survey. From 1914 until 1947, changes in retail prices had been measured by the Cost of Living Index. This was the only official measure of inflation and consequently had a great impact on wage negotiations. However, it was constructed

working-class households made in 1904. This gave high weights to items such as candles, and by 1947 it was

hopelessly out of date.

A new Interim Index of Retail Prices started in 1947, but this was still based on pre-1939 patterns of expenditure. Under Fowler's direction, and following recommendations by the RPI Advisory Committee, a succession of improvements was made. The first postwar survey of household

by measuring changes in the expenditure was held in 1953cost of buying a fixed "basket 54 in order to obtain weights of goods" which was based on for a new Index of Retail Prices, which started in 1950. A permanent survey, the

Family Expenditure Survey. was started in 1957 to collect the expenditure data continuously. Finally, in 1962, the present "chained" system was introduced, under which the weights of the RPI are updated every year.

Ronald Frederick Fowler was educated at Bancroit's School, the London School of Economics and at the Universities of Lille and Brussels, before becoming lecturer in

commerce at LSE. He published The Depreciation of Capital in 1934.

With t Second World War he became one of the founder members of the Central Statistical Office. which was set up by Winston Churchill to serve the War Cabinet. It was during his time at the CSO that Fowler was influential in developing a system of employment statistics based on counts of national Insurance cards.

In 1950 he was appointed Director of Statistics at the Ministry of Labour, where he was responsible for the entire range of labour statistics, covering employment and unemployment, wage rates and earnings, industrial disputes and retail prices. These were all topics of great political interest.

Fowler was Director of Statistics at the Ministry of Labour from 1950 to 1968. He introduced the monthly index of average earnings and conducted other surveys of earnings, salaries and labour costs. He was then Director of Statistical Research at the Department of Employment until he retired in 1972. During this period he published further papers on the duration of unemployment and the construction of index numbers. He was a consultant on

to the Prices Commission. A quiet, self-effacing man, Fowler had unexpected interests. In his forties, he taught himself Latin so that he could read the classical texts in the original. He was appointed CBE in 1950.

prices to Statistics Canada and

In 1937 he married Brenda Smith. She survives him.

IAN THRELFALL

lan Threifall, QC, died on January 6 aged 76. He was born on January 14,

CLASSICAL scholar, historian, archaeologist and lawyer, Ian Threlfall could have followed any of these disciplines with distinction. But he chose the Bar, developing a formidable reputation as a QC in the area now generally called "competition law".

Competition law involves the application of legal and economic principles to the determination of the public interest in matters of monopoly and anti-competitive conduct. Industry's need for advocates with the intellect to understand commercial and economic issues, as well as strictly legal matters, created a new market in which Threlfall grasped the opportunities. He led a remarkably successful group of barristers' chambers in Gray's Inn — now known as Monckton Chambers, at 4

Raymond Buildings.

When Threlfall started practice, the Second World War was barely over. By the time he retired, the area in which he practised had changed beyond recognition. He was in at the beginning of the old "cartel" or trade association cases that were considered by the Restrictive Practices Court in the later 1950s. He went on to lead in cases under the Resale Prices Act of 1964 and in references to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the Fair Trading Act, 1973. What had started as an interesting if specialised subject for lawyers and economists had grown, in part as a result of Britain's entry into



the EEC in 1973, into a major area of law and policy affecting the relations between the

State and the corporation. Richard Ian Threlfall was born in Edghaston and educated at Oundle. He followed in his father's footsteps, going up to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, in 1938 to read law. But he was already seriously interested in archaeology, too, and had helped to excavate a medieval settle-

ment at Bere in Devon. Threlfall's academic career was interrupted in 1940 when he enlisted in the Army. He served with the Indian Armoured Corps (Probyn's Horse), was twice mentioned In dispatches, had a substantive rank as captain, and was promoted to lieutenant-colonel by the end of the war. He took part in one of the most decisive battles of that war, at Imphal. and was on the staff of Field Marshal Slim. But he was always reticent about his war record, never boasting of the courage which he had shown. In 1946 he returned to

Cambridge to complete his law degree. He was called to the Bar by Lincoln's inn in toined the ch of Brian McKenna, QC, (later Mr Justice McKenna) in 1948. He took silk in 1965 and was made a Master of the Bench of Lincoln's lnn in 1973.

He married in 1948 Annetts Matthey, whose family had long been associated with the Goldsmiths' Company. Threlfall dedicated himself to the affairs of this livery company for more than 30 years. He became Prime Warden, 1978-79, but his main work, from 1974 to 1991, was as chairman of the company's assay office committee, the work of which is essential to the retention of the highest standards of quality in the use of precious metals and their description. He was also closely involved in the company's educational and

charitable work. Threlfall's classical scholarship was also put to good use, not least when once, on holiday in Crete with his family, he was arrested on suspicion of being an American spying on a secret military installa tion. Release was only secured when Threlfall recited the first ten lines of the Odyssey. His Oundle-educated accent cleared him of suspicion of

being American. In retirement, Threlfall worked assiduously with the East Surrey Health Authority. tended the splendid garden of his Limpsfield house and nurtured his growing family of grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Annene and by two sons and three daughters. Another son predeceased him in a car,

THE BALLOONS HAULED DOWN

For many dwellers in great cities, as they listened to Neville Chamberlain's broade announcing the declaration of war, the first evidence of the strange adventure into which they were entering came from the silent ascent all round them of the barrage balloons. For a time during those early days of sinister and unnatural calm, the balloons remained almost the only visible reminder that war was in progress. Aloft in the sunshine they could gleam with an unearthly beauty; their elephantine gambollings near the ground could make them uproarious figures of fun, or, on a wet and windy day, the cause of utter exasperation. But in the years of danger they and their gallant crews, of both sexes, have

which to-day, so far as home defence is concerned, they rest.
Yesterday the Secretary of State for Air said farewell to Balloon Command, and many thousands of men and women will disperse, some to continue with the balloons under other R.A.F. commands abroad, most to new duties in the old cause. They go their several ways with the memory of a comradeship in which they played an essential part in those successive defeats of the Luftwalfe which have

Chaylin 1250

done the country inestimable service — from

ON THIS DAY

February 6, 1945 **经型的企**

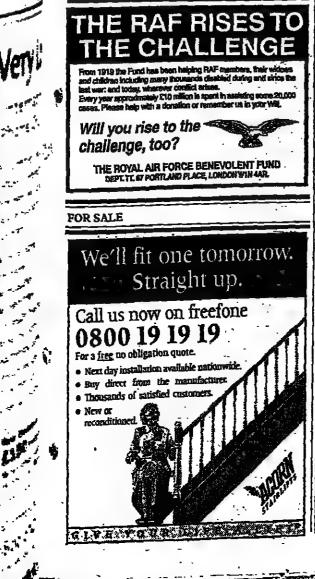
In the early weeks of 1945 signs were apparent everywhere that the Second World War was entering its final phase.

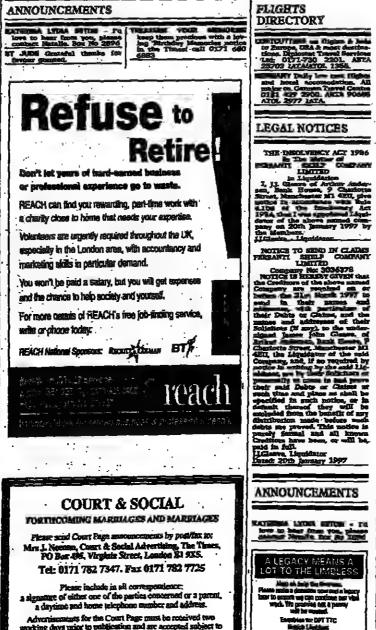
now issued in a firm allied mastery of the air. Working in constant association with the guns of Anti-Aircraft Command, they helped to protect London and other great cities in the grim second winter of the war, they made a swift new deployment against the "Baedeker Raids", and another when "tip-and-run" raiding was directed against the south coast: they took the offensive at the invasion of Europe and were on guard over the beaches on D Day; and more lately still they brought down 278 flying bombs. Besides all this, they had their tasks in the landings at Dieppe. Sicily, Salerno and Corsica; and for three years provided a mobile canopy over merchant ships traversing the Channel. Civilians

and soldiers, seamen and landsmen will preserve with affection the memory of their plump and amiable guardians, and hold in honour the men and women who, through tedium, hardship and danger, laboured to keep them in the sky.

AMERICANS IN MANILA Manila, Feb. 5 - British and Australian

prisoners were among about 3,700 internees rescued when the 1st United States Cavalry Division cut their way through the Japanese defenders of Manila and threw open the Santo Tomas internment camp. Miss Barbara Clear, a member of Reuter's Manila staff, who was among those freed, said: "Nine hours ago I was one of the 3,700 civilian internees for whom the prison doors were opened when American troops hacked their way with knives through Japanese resistance to rescue us from our internment camp. I had been interned since January 4, 1942, and for the past five montchs we had been gradually starving to death. When the American landed in Leyte the Japanese discipline became much more strict. Doctors among the internees were giving death certificates showing the cause as malnutrition, but the Japanese demanded that the certificates should be falsified and altered to read 'natural causes'."





white the second of the last VAT.

TRAVELMOOD has a rockbottom E159 return fare to New York, flying Continental before February 28. The agency also has a £248 deal flying Northwest to Los Angeles before mid-March. Details: 0171-258 0280.

FLIGHTS to Mexico City before March 10 cost £281 return with American Airlines, departing from London, Birmingham or Manchester. Details: Trailfinders, 0171-937

BRITISH AIRWAYS has a special £59 fare between Edin-burgh and Belfast for passengers attending the five nations championship game on March I. Details 0345 222111.

KLM flights to Bali cost £4i5 return through Trailfinders. Departures from Lon-don or any of 20 UK regional airports. Details: 0171-938

GB AIRWAYS has introduced a £165 Supersaver ex-cursion between Gatwick and Tunis. Details: 0345 222111.

SWISSAIR flights to the Gulf state of Dubai during February cost £329 return through Air Tickets Direct. Depart are from Heathrow, for a minimum one-week stay. Details: 01279 713713.

HOLDAYS

FREE WEEKEND hotel accommodation is on offer from Going Places with every overseas holiday booked for this year. Rooms are available in 240 hotels in Britain, Ireland. France, Belgium and The Netherlands, where breakfast and dinner will cost about £25 person a day. Details from the company's 715 shops.

MADEIRA for a fortnight for £379 a person on a Cosmos holiday with bed and breakfast accommodation and a flight from Manchester next Monday is available from Co-op Travelcare. Details: 0161-

SAVINGS of E64 a person are available on a formight's holiday to Orlando with Prices, from £399, include flights from Manchester on February 20 and 22, room-only accommodation in the central area and car hire. Details: 0990 336336.

SKIING weekends in Flaine, Switzerland, are available from Erna Low from £355 a person with a Swissair flight from London on February 28, three nights' half-board hotel accommodation and car hire. Details: 0171-584 2841.

■ NEPAL for a fortnight for £1,200 a person is available from Exodus on a tour that

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includes Kathmandu, walking in the Pokhara Valley and visiting Chitwan National Park. The price includes the return flight from London on March 8, accommodation in hotels and lodges and some meals. Details: 0181-675 5550.

COSTA CRUISES has cut 30 per cent off the price of its 16-night Easter cruise from Florida on March 30 through the Caribbean and across the Atlantic to Genoa. Prices start at £995 a person, plus £80 port tax, and include a flight from London, meals and a night in a Miami hotel. Details: 0171-

■ BARCELONA city breaks with discount passes to a dozen attractions are available from £229 a person from Lakes & Mountains Holidays from April 1 and include two nights' bed and breakfast at a four-star hotel and return flights from Heathrow. Detalls: 01329 844405.

COST-PRICE trips to Turkey are on offer from Tapestry Holidays to mark the introduction of Aymera Hill Hotel near Olu Denix to its pro-gramme. Holidays cost £199 a person for a week's bed and breakfast and £249 for a fortnight with flights from Gatwick on April 27, May 4 and 11. Details: 0181-742 0055.

prices fr. £1380

€1380

LIR CANADA

CANADA



Italian inspiration: discount passes to museums concerts and restaurants are included in two-night breaks to Venice with Crystal Italy. Prices start from £339 a person for two nights in bed and breakfast accommodation and include return scheduled flights. Details: 0181-390 5554.

DAY-TRIP prices on Stema Line between Dover and Calais or Newhaven and Dieppe

cost £10 for a car and up to five passengers before March 1 (£10 supplements on Saturday). The same price applies until April 15 for a car and two passengers. Details: Euro-drive, on 0181-324 4000. MOTORCYCLE fares for a

driver and up to two passen-gers (including sidecar) start at £39 for a five-day Sea France return and £59 for a standard return between Do-ver and Calais, valid until Feb-ruary 28. Details: 0990 71/71.

A TWO-DAY return, valid until March 16, is available on P&O Ferries from Dover to Calais from £45 for a car and up to five passengers. Details: Eurodrive, 0181-324 4000.

SHORT BREAKS to Ireland, centred on Co Cork, start at £122 a person with Swansea Cork Ferries, to include ferry crossing, and based on two adults sharing two nights in three-star accommodation with breakingt Details: 01792

TVALENTINE'S Day aboard a Scandinavian Seaways ferry to Holland is on offer from £59 a person from Harwich on February 13. Details: 0990 333111.

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one are on offer from selected Grand Heritage hotels in the UK, including £45 a person for two nights at the Burleigh Court Hotel, an 18th-century manor house in the Cotswolds. Offer valid until March

OVER-60s get a 35 per cent discount at the Spanish paradors available through Mundi Color Holidays. The offer, on a B&B basis, is available until June. Details: 0171-828 6021,

31 and excludes Valentine's

night. Details: 0171-244 6699.

CHAMPAGNE and chocolates are included in the Valentine offer from the Park Consul Hotel, a discreet town-house hotel in Chelsea, at £155 a couple. The offer includes Saturday morning breakfast before hitting the shops. Details: 0171-225 7500.

A SPORTS activity such as clay-pigeon shooting, riding, or a spa treatment, is included in the leisure break price offered by the Gleneagles Hotel in Auchterarder. Perth-shire, at £179 a night for two people. Details: 0800 704705.

"GREAT Affordables" is the name of a free new weekend-break brochure from Leading Hotels of the World detailing special holidays at

TWO NIGHTS for the price of 159 top hotels worldwide. Details: 0800 181123.

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RELAX in a four-poster bath at the Grade II listed Rowton Castle Hotel in the Shropshire countryside for a two-night Valentine break, including dinner, for £100 a person a night. Reservations through Superbreak Mini-Holidays: 0161-238 5257.

A SPECIAL weekend break price of £195 a room a night plus VAT and including breakfast is available from the Halkin Hotel in London's Knightsbridge Details: 0171-333 1000.

■ A FREE guide to romantic weekend breaks in European cities is available from Inter-Continental Hotels. The 24 Hours in the Heart of the City Guide offers 12 itineraries. Details: 0800 854068.

■ SHAKESPEARE'S Love Sonnets are among the extras included in the Valentine package at the Springs Hotel near Wallingford, Oxford-shire, close to the Thames. Price: £80 for a double room. Details: 01491 836687.

MA COMPLIMENTARY guide to the 160 Budget Travel Inns has just been launched. All rooms are priced at £36.50 a night. Details: 01582 414341.

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PINKERTON'S EYE

Shuttle slashes fares to regain lost business

LE SHUTTLE turned the in the cross-Channel price war yesterday when it sharply undercut its arch-rival P&O Ferries by slashing up to a quarter off the price of last

year's Channel Tunnel fares. The tunnel operator's 1997 summer tariffs show a simplifed fare structure and a level of prices it hopes to maintain throughout the year. without resorting to last summer's fierce price war.

It has cut its standard return price to £169, from £268 last year, while fares for the eight peak weekends in the summer drop from £328 last year to £199. These prices cover a car and up to nine

The shuttle prices compare with P&O's £268 peak rate and £218 for a standard return for a car and three passengers. Bill Dix, Le Shuttle's managing director, says: "We want

in have prices that are competitive and affordable. And we are hoping not to have to mess around with discounts this

In June last year, Le Shuttle slashed its peak fare from £328 to £129 to spark a price war among the four lerry rivals operating out of Dover. The average return ferry fare was close to £100 during last

Le Shuttle also announced yesterday that it is matching P&O's offer of any 1997 return fare for £99 when it is booked and paid for by February 28. na has a £98 fare, with a £79 fare available from Sea France and Hoverspeed (Folkestone-Boulogne). Now the market is waiting

to see what prices Stena, the third-largest operator on the short-seas route, will tempt passengers with when it produces its summer schedule

> to 25 million return journeys. Of that figure, around 1.6 million were British cars, with half on day trips or short breaks. Fifteen per cent were business travellers and 35 per cent were taking long-stay

shortly. While the ferries bene-fited in November and De-

cember from the fire damage

to the round, Le Shutth

claims that confidence in its

services has now recovered

enough to take a 38 per cent

share of the joint Dover!

Folkestone-Calais market.

Last October, before the fire, it

But with the proposed merg-er of P&O and Stena expected

to be approved by the Monop-

olies and Mergers Commis-

sion on March 6, a price war

this summer appears unlikely.

The joint ferry operation will

cut excess capacity, the main reason for last summer's price

Mr Dix says the market is

expected to see a further increase in 1997, dampening

the possibilities of a price war.

Last year the number of cars

passing through Dover or the

tunnel increased by 25 per cent

held a 50 per cent share.

The average number pf passengers per car was 2.5.
The increase in 1997 could be more than 15 per cent," said

"With the strong pound we are seeing tour operators booking heavily - but the big growth is in day trips and short breaks.

There are a tremendous number of people in the South East who have not yet been



Operator targets 'green' tourists

their habitat in the Congo and working alongside Russian anti-poaching units protecting tigers are among the unique holidays offered by an environmental

travel company launched this week.
Discovery initiatives plans to give travellers the chance to play their own part in saving threatened species and regions by joining conservation projects and working alongside local people as

"The real difference about our programme is that tourists will become closely involved with the communities

they want to help," says Julian Mat-thews, the company's founder.
"Many of these projects are the sort of schemes which people might write a small cheque to support. By joining the project for a holiday, tourists will know that the money they are spending, as well as their time, will go directly towards beloing achieve their objective

success of Earthwatch, the Oxford-based

BY TONY DAWE

charity which now sends thousands of travellers to work on conservation projects around the world. Matthews has consulted Earthwalch directors before finalising his programme.

Tourists taking part in the dozen projects available this year will fly to the area and move into a specially-prepared camp. There they will meet scientists and local people engaged in the schemes to be briefed before going to work themselves.

In the Congo, for example, tourists will help to survey the plants and animals, including wild chimpanzees within the new reserve set up by the Jane Goodail Institute as well as helping to care for and

feed orphaned baby chimps.

Matthews also promises "jolly outings" to see local sites and people — as well as some less jolly ones to witness the impact of indiscriminate logging. The aim of one project, in British Columbia.

bears, to convince government agencies that the area needs protection from

mining and logging schemes.

Tourists joining the Rivers Canada project will travel down the Taku River on whitewater rafts to establish daily base camps as a springboard for photographing the scenery, surveying the wildlife and studying native American sites along the riverbank.

The Congo programme costs £2,895 a person and is available on three dates in July and August; the Canada project costs £3,985 in September; the Russian tigers project £3,575, and some schemes are available for less than £2,000. Most of them last a fortnight.

Meanwhile, Earthwatch is going from strength to strength and will announce later this month details of a El million funding from the Millennium Commission. The money will provide fellowships to 500 teachers and education officers to join Earthwatch projects.

A monthly column from the security and detection agency

·LOW RISK

For the second year in a row. police in Costa Rica have been assigned to patrol beaches in "Operation Sale Summer", Over recent months farmers seamen, public servants and professional people have all launched strikes and street protests in Greece. If the austerity measures caused by the country's drive to meet EU economical requirements continue, general strike action is predicted, particularly in

MODERATE RISK

Economic meltdown in Bulgaria finally brought demonstrators on to the streets of Sofia in January. As the embattled Socialist Government has rejected early elections, more protests are certain. The increasing wave of Volkswagen "Bug" taxi passenger assaults and robperies have forced the police in Mexico City to intensify operations in tourist zones, hotels, restaurants and the airport. At least three well-armed insurgent groups are active in Uganda. Insurgent activity occurs in the area of Murchison Falls National Park, north of the Nile. Travel is also risky in the southwestern corner of Uganda near the Zaire and Rwanda borders.

HIGH RISK

Most international aid agencles have abandoned eastern Zaire after government forces, backed by European mercenaries, launched a counteroffensive against Tutsi rebels.

EXTREME RISK

More than 200 people have been killed in a campaign by Islamic extremists in Algeria which has included car bombs in crowded metropolitan areas and the slaughter of villagers in the countryside. Outbreaks of violence between ethnic Serbs, Muslims and Croats threaten a shaky peace in

Pinkerion 0181-424 8884

Hotels use VAT loophole to hide price increases

By DAVID CHURCHILL

Le Shuttle hopes that 1997 will be just like the old days

are increasingly

practice, which is present, could be d after a Department of e and Industry review cheri earlier this week of price-marking legislation fecting hotels.

0171 485 7017

The practice was exposed this week by business travel agency Carlson Wagonlit Travel. It claimed that three-Carlson Wagonlit and four-star hotel chains such as Forte and Sarova hotels were behaving "arrogantly by putting up rates and then trying to hide the increases by quoting prices before VAT was added.

Ms Paula Batten, Carlson's general manager for hotels, says that "this is a growing trend which is purely in the

om rates exclusive i practice came to light while rates for its corporate clients. Among hotels adopting this policy, she claims, was Forte's four-star Cavendish Hotel in central London, which quotes £140 plus VAT for a single room, and Sarova's Washing-ton hotel in Mayfair, which charges £160 plus VAT a

Most five-star hotels in London have quoted prices ex-VAT for some time, arguing that it is helpful for overseas and business guests who can claim the VAT back. But it is believed that this is the first time that four-star hotels have

adopted the policy. Hotel industry sources also suggest that Forte may also institute a similar policy for its three-star Posthouse chain,

notes' interest". She says the although the company strong-practice came to light while ly denied this yesterday. But her agency was carrying out Ms Batten says that the three planning such a move are predominantly dependent on domestic visitors and many British travellers may face unpleasant surprises when they get their room bills this

> Quoting prices excluding VAT is lawful in certain circumstances because of exceptions made for VAT-registered guests under the 1987 Con-sumer Protection Act and the hotel industry code of practice adopted the following year.

However, the law remains confusing in its application and the DIT wrote on Monday to the industry's trade body, the British Hospitality Association, asking for suggestions as to how the law concerning

hotels could be amended.

Tom Pocock on Wolfe's Quebec

Germany special: Ulm, Baden Baden and Munich

Namibia Turkey-

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and Lynmouth

and social importance of tour-ism is still not recognised in

Equally, foreign visitors of-

ten have negative images of

some quarters.

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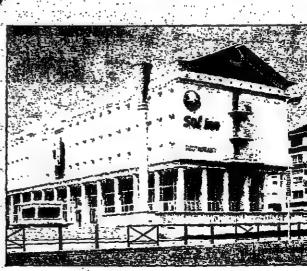
Our money saving packages, available for travel completed by March 26, 1997, offer you a selection of 158 leading hotels in 12 European countries.

A complete list of hotels and prices, flights and fares, were published in Monday's newspaper. Full details can be obtained by calling EuroDrive on 0181 324 4000.

THE TIMES PASSPORT TO EUROPE This form, with three differently numbered tokens from The Times, entities the bearer to special travel offers as listed

EuroDrive, Image House, Station Road, London N17 9LR. Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other

in the newspaper on Monday, February 3, 1997. Send to:



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per party) PLUS the cost of your flight(s) and airport taxes.

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THE Euro Prive SHORT BREAKS **TOKEN 4**

Britain aims to be No 1 destination

BRITAIN is bidding to be-come the world's number one holiday destination, attracting millions more tourists who

will fuel an economic and employment boom. But in a document aimed at finding ways of turning the policy into reality, published yesterday, there is no mention of any limit to the growth in the number of foreign tourists and little mention of how the ver-rising number of visitors

to be managed. After unveiling the report, Success Through Partnership.

theorists of the FBI are reluctantly beginning ven the conspiracy

to accept that the awful crash

of the TWA jumbo jet off Long

Island last year was caused by

mechanical failure rather

And if, as expected, the

Federal Aviation Administra-

tion (FAA) also agrees, the

implications for airlines,

planemakers and travellers

are potentially enormous. Ev-

ery modern jet aircraft may

have to be redesigned to

most far-reaching safety regu-

lations ever imposed on the

world's airlines now being

The FAA is expected for-

mally to order airlines to fill

fuel tanks with nitrogen rath-

prepared in Washington.

omply with the toughest and

than terrorist attack.

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

produced by the Government and the tourist industry, the Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomicy, said: "We want to make Britain the number one destination, not just for domestic tourism but for Europeans and the rest of the world. We want to extend the season and develop areas away from places such as London, Oxford and Stratford. And there is no limit in sight to the increase in visitors we can accommodate."

Britain earns more than £37 billion a year from tourism and its total economic impact is estimated to be more than twice that, it accounts for over 7 per cent of employment. But the document acknowledges that not everyone is

happy about the continued growth in tourists in London and at popular attractions throughout Britain

The presence of tourists is sometimes resented," admits the report. The full economic

Britain. Some potential visi-tors see us as old-fashioned and gloomy, with bad weather and bad food. People who have never visited Britain may be deterred by misleading and outdated perceptions," the re-port says. London is often criticised as having a "vari-

able quality product, environ

mental clutter and traffic congestion," the report says. many years ago that the rapid movement of fuel within a

> the United States refused, arguing that their fuel was pumped at a slower speed and

safety would implicitly mean that mechanical failure was damages is held with Lloyd's in London.

Airlines facing new safety costs



It is the last item that will cause particular annoyance in much of the rest of the world and will inevitably lead to accusations that had the US followed the advice of Britain's Civil Aviation Authority the accident would not have happened in the first place.

er than air as they become empty, move all equipment The FBI was at first conthat could generate heat up to vinced that the explosion on a metre away from fuel tanks, the Boeing 747, in which 230 refrigerate fuel stored on the passengers and crew died, ground, monitor fuel temhad been caused by a bomb. perature and prevent the build-up of static electricity by Officials from the National Transportation Safety Board using a special additive.

(NTSB), however, were un-convinced and, with the help of Britain's Air Accident Investigation Branch, they reassembled millions of pieces of wreckage in an attempt to establish just what went wrong - and why.

Now they are almost certain that a spark caused by static electricity triggered an explosion in fuel vapour which had built up in the nearly empty centre fuel tank. Alarmingly, they fear that all modern jet airliners could suffer the same fundamental design

As a result, the NTSB passed its "urgent recommendations" for manadatory safety improvements to the FAA on December 13. It now has 90 days in which to respond. the CAA recognised

pipe or a pump could lead to the build-up of potentially dangerous static and ordered all British airports to use an additive - known as SDA when refuelling to eliminate Most other countries immediately followed the CAA's lead. But Russia, China and

there was therefore less risk. Officially, the FAA has yet to decide whether to accept the NTSB's recommendations But airlines are already convinced that new regulation . Any new moves to improve

now the accepted cause of the disaster, throwing open the doors to legal actions by relatives, with potential damets of more than £5 billion. Most of the insurance for such

NEWS

Sotheby's suspends senior staff

■ Sotheby's, the world's oldest and biggest auctioneers. suspended senior members of staff yesterday amid allegations that it systematically broke the law to smuggle art treasures.

A hidden camera carried by an investigator from the Channel 4 Dispatches programme filmed Roeland Kollewijn, Sotheby's Old Masters expert in Milan, offering to smuggle a work by the Italian painter Giuseppe Nogari to Britain. He makes a series of damaging admissions......Pages 1, 14, 15, 17

Widow unable to explain attack

A headmistress described her "total devastation" on learning that her husband was stabbed to death as he struggled with a bank manager's wife at her home. Soon after identifying the body of David Stuchbery, 49, his widow, Linda, said she could not explain the attack on a neighbour ... Page 1

Tube plan shelved

following leaks have forced the Government to shelve, at short notice, a high-profile launch in the Commons of its Tube privati-...Page i sation plans....

Two-stage pay rises

The Cabinet is expected to agree to a recommendation from Kenneth Clarke for 2 per cent pay rises for 1.3 million public sector workers this April, with a top-up in December. Page l

Judge shortage

Judges said that a proposed Labour pay freeze could damage recruitment because of the gap between earnings of judges and leading lawyers, from whom judges are drawnPage 2

Lessons in love

An English teacher who has three children by different fathers was forced to resign from a Roman Catholic school after two affairs, a tribunal heard _Page 3

Burma reconciliation

British and Japanese war veterans are to visit cemeteries in Burma together in a gesture of reconciliation to commemorate

My Fair Legacy The British Museum, RADA and the National Gallery of Ireland, the main beneficiaries of George

Damages for mother

Fears of a hostile public reaction. A woman who lost her unborn child after medical staff failed to diagnose cervical cancer in a routine smear test was awarded £60,000 damages at the High Court in London Page 6

Santer hits back Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, struck back at John Major's campaign against the social chapter, dismissing his argument as

....Pages 8. 17 caricature ... German gloom

dole has jumped to 4.6 million, dashing the Government's hope of an early recovery on the labour

The number of Germans on the

market and badly affecting EMU Clinton upstaged President Clinton's State of the Union address was almost upstaged by Julius Caesar Watts,

the black Republican minister

who responded Page 10, 17 OJ ruined

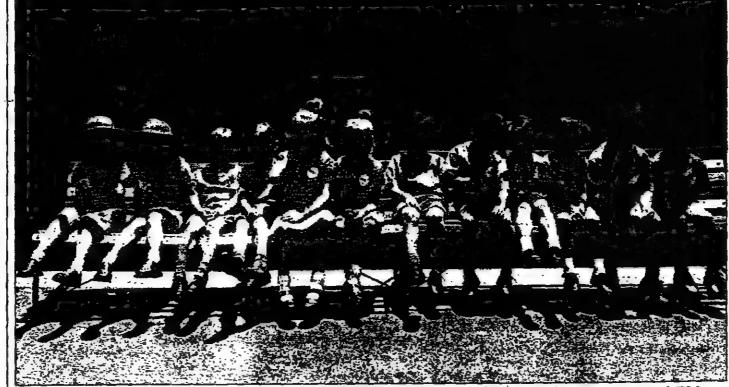
The defeat of O.J. Simpson in his second trial has left him facing financial ruin and Americans contemplating a deep racial those who died there...... Page 4 rift. . Pages 11, 16

Zaire ultimatum

Zaire's rebel leader, speaking from his marble-lined palace in Goma, gave President Mobutu Bernard Shaw's estate, will share two weeks to relinquish power or My Fair Lady royalties.....Page 5 face removal by force......Page 12

For Sale: clergyman's temple of love

■ One of the most scandalous addresses of the Victorian age is up for sale, 150 years after it was built as a temple of love by an errant clergyman. Barford Gables in Somerset was known as "The Abode of Love" when the Rev Henry Prince, a seif-styled new Messiah, installed a bevy of "soul brides" there. Sexual ceremonies took place on a billiard-table "altar".......... Page 3



Six sets of twins started school at Governor Philip King Primary School in Sydney yesterday, a record for New South Wales

Bank merger: Morgan Stanley and Dean Witter, Discover are to merge and create the world's largest international investment bank with a market capitalisation of about \$21 Page 23

ScotAm: Prudential Corporation has began a £1.9 billion bid battle with Abbey National to take over Scottish Amicable Page 23

BT digital deal: BT is to become the largest shareholder in the £600 million company which will help to develop set-top boxes to receive dig-.. Page 23 ital television...

Markets: The FTSE 100 climbed 20.6 points to 4281.5. Sterling's trade weighted index rose 1.1 points to 96.8 with the pound rising from DM2.6591 to DM2.6905 and from \$1.6202 to \$1.6322 _____ Page 26

Cricket: Wet weather, a pitch sweating under covers and injury concerns over influential players left England and New Zealand fret-

ting about their strategies for the Footbalk Bradford are to take legal action against the Huddersfield defender Kevin Gray after a tackle left Gordon Watson with a broken

... Page 44 Rugby union: Dean Richards, a talisman of Leicester and England, has been dropped for the first time in 15 years for the Pilkington Cup match against Bath....... Page 44

Sports funding: Lottery grants will increasingly be available for building spectator facilities for sports such as cricket, rugby union, rugby league and horseracing Page 41

Spruce geese: Geoff Brown's film of the week is Fly Away Home, an

endearing saga about orphaned geese, starting Anna Paquin and a fluffy gaggle. ...Page 33 Space race: If you missed America saving the world from aliens in Independence Day, Roland

Emmerich's box-office smash of 1996, now's your chance to catch up with it on videoPage 34 Straitlaced passion: The guitarist Paco Peña brings his Flamenco

Dance Company to London in a show full of careful choreography Uneasy riders: Stephen Green-

horn's Scottish play Passing Places is the stage version of a road movie, seeking answers to a spiritual void

IN THE TIMES

Having travelled the

platinum-paved road to

veered into the obscurity

pop Mecca, have Blur

of experimentation?

■ EDUCATION

POP

side story: In part one of a new book serialised in The Times, the author Peter Watson exposes Sotheby's role in the illegal traffic in Old Masters..... Pages 14, 15

Or Thomas Stutteford gives help to those who suffer from irritable bowel syndrome and advice on

having a healthy baby...... Page 13

Worth the journey: Le Shuttle undercuts P&O on Channel tunnel car crossings....

inquiring minds: Peter Stothard examines a new Odyssey; Allan Levy on a senseless death. Felipe Fernández-Armesto condemns Colonisation; Michael Gove on Irish applied history Pages 36, 37

Business continuity: How companies can cope with damage and Pages 30, 31

The most important message from the election victory of Nawaz Sharif in Pakistan is the poor turnout. The fact that even the politically uncompromised and admired sports star Imran Khan made no impact -

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

company cannot counter these charges, it should announce forthwith how it proposes to come back within the law Page 17 Irreversible opt-in The case against the social chapter goes far deeper than specific directives. Britain should retain its

Preview: Robson Green is a surgeon who falls for an older woman, Francesca Annis. Reckless (TIV.

9pm). Review: Lynne Truss on a treat from Derek Jacobi ... Page 47

The evidence of wrongdoing at Sotheby's which we publish today

should appai both the art world

and the Department of Trade and

Industry. The practices uncovered range from the ethically question-

able to the plainly illegal. If the

Going, going

opt-out because the chapter provides an irreversible opportunity to pass anti-competitive and expen-

The two Clintons

President Clinton appeared to back so many diverse initiatives in his State of the Union address that it was hard to discern his true priorities...

WILLIAM REES-MOGG Robin Cook supports the social chapter and Gordon Brown is set. on a pay freeze, which leaves Tony

Blair more isolated than ever. His

party still believes that bureaucrats

can allocate resources better than

markets canPage 16 PETER RIDDELL

Gordon Brown's pay freeze is a bad omen - just the type of empty populist gesture Labour was supposed to have left behind ... Page 8 JOHN BRYANT

We are used, these days, to champion endurance runners coming out of Africa. We have learnt to expect them to be at the front at the great games and the mass marathons. It

was not always so Pamela Harriman, American Ambassador to France since 1993:

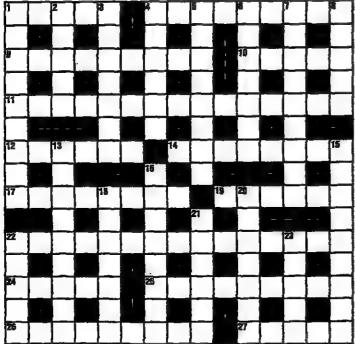
Ronald Fowler, statistician; Ian

Threlfall, QC.....

Douglas Hurd on Yugoslavia; organic farming; William Burrell's art collection.

Wind speed

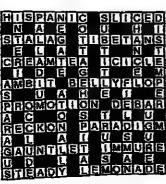
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,396



ACROSS

- 1 Very loud complaint initially gets one down (5).
- 4 Former colony by mistake detaining queen? Nonsense! (9). 9 Crazy climbers may be trained
- here (2.3.4). 10 Engaged in a fight (5).
- 11 Make a concession, and include rubber at no extra cost (5,2,3,5).
- 12 When's boat coming back inside for good? (6). 14 Bill going to and fro, interrupting
- child's game (8). indicates this foreign letter
- has been received by one of the Bells (8).
- : 19 WI music following in the style of American state (6).
- 22 Impending disaster a hair's breadth away (5.2.8).
- 24 Advertise draw (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,395

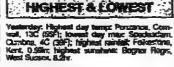


- 25 Liberal president has to change quickly (4,1,4).
- 26 Rendered predatory characters in
- 27 Some of the old are dentally challenged (5).
- 1 Card from Genua, perhaps (9). 2 No parking initially in the golf dub. 52y (5). 3 Conflict about small elevated
- road in America (7). 4 Popular poet conceals what's not
- well defined (6). 5 Principal cargo put above par-
- tition (8), 6 Knotted lace — it's flexible (7).
- 7 Where people found robust slaves
- 8 Keen on the Spanish parador (5). 13 Be delighted with minor part in play broadcast (4.2,3). 15 Crossed it (and rest) out (9).
- 16 Now and then attack without reserve (8).
- 18 Boat's propeller one found playing in the shallows (7). 20 Are told to change clothing for
- dancing (7). 21 Signal from old vessel in sea area
- 22 Construct frame G.21. 23 Composer Henry given accoun modation by writer Edward (5).

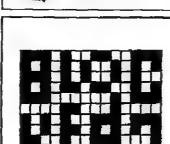
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MEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING





Why independent schools are ahead of the game in adding value

be mainly dry at first with bright intervals. Rain will soon spread to northern England and it will also become increasingly cloudy else-where, perhaps with petichy drizzle

near western coasis and windy but generally mild day. Scotland and Northern Ireland will see rain for a time but it should become brighter in eastern Scotland. Western areas will have further outbreaks of rain before heavier rain sweeps southeast later. Strong to

gale-force winds, but mild. London, SE England, & Anglie, E England, Channel Islam: bright or sunny intervals. Becoming increasingly cloudy but staying dy. Wind southwest, fresh to strong.

Mild, max 10C (50F). ☐ Cent S England, Midlands, NW England, Cent N England; mainly dry but rather a lot of cloud. Wind southwest, fresh to strong. Mild, max

SW England, Wales, Lake Dis-trict, Isle of Man: rather cloudy, patchy rain or drizzle at times. Wind southwest, strong to gale. Mild, mex. 10C (50F). 100 (50F).

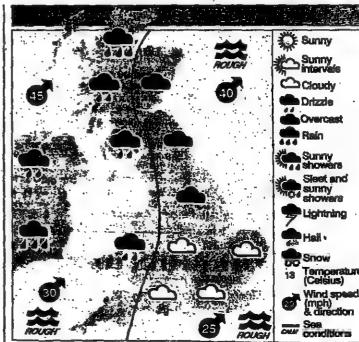
NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands: outbreaks of rain, becoming mainly dry with some bright intervals. Wind southwest, mostly strong, Very mild, max 10C cents.

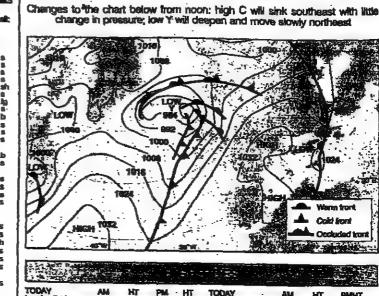
LISW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Ortney, Shetland, Northern treland: rain extending northeast. Further outbreaks are likely at times during the day, before some basics rain. day before some heavier rain spreads from the north-west in the evening. Wind southwest strong to

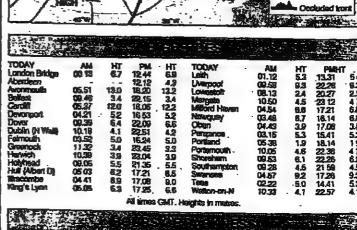
gale, perhaps severe gale. Mild, max 10C (50F). Outlook: rain spreading southeast, followed by sunny spells and scattered showers. Becoming

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London 4.59 pm to 7.29 am Extend 5.05 pm to 7.35 am Econourgh 4.57 pm to 7.56 am Sun sets: 4.59 pm

1.16.

INSIDE **SECTION**

TODAY

TO THE SECOND



FOCUS

Could your business survive a bomb? **PAGES 30, 31**



ARTS

You'll believe a goose can fly in the week's best film **PAGES 33-35**



SPORT

England reach watershed in New Zealand **PAGES 38-44**

TELEVISION AND RADIO **PAGES**

42, 43

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100 4281.5 (+20.8) Yield 3.52% FTSE All share 2089.61 (+8.41) Nilder 18185.67 (-128.86)

New Yorks....... \$8185.97 (-128.86) New Yorks....... \$845.03 (+11.55)* SSP Composite 788.64 (-0.62)*

LIS RATE

LONDON LIONEY

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook ...

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 1997

Morgan Stanley and Dean Witter, Discover in \$21bn deal

Wall Street banks to merge

MORGAN Stanley and Dean Witter, Discover are to merge to create the world's largest international investment bank with a market capitalisation of about \$21 billion.

The deal, unveiled in New York yesterday, caught rivals and analysts on both sides of the Atlantic on the hop. The merger is by far the largest between two investment panks, creating an organisation that will easily surpass Merrill Lynch, until now the

Morgan Stanley bas a mar-ket capitalisation of \$8.8 billion and made profits of \$1.6

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK billion with reported profits of for consolidation in the global \$952 million. The move ends Morgan Stanley's long search for a merger partner that almost ended in a deal with SG Warburg, the British mer-chant bank, in 1995 before the US bank polled out at the last moment over fears of large-

gan Stanley, will be president of the combined company. He said that he had been talking about a merger with Dean Witter for three years. Philip Purcell, head of Dean

John Mack, head of Mor-

Witter, will be chairman and chief executive of the com-

only the largest will survive in the increasingly global and finance industry where size and market share have becompetitive finance industry. come essential for success. It would also combine two of the

The merged company will be the investment banking leader in international mergers and acquisitions, international and US new share issues, asset management and

world's best known financial

brand names. He said that

although there would be some

cost cutting it was not the

a range of other businesses. Analysts said the deal was Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter, Discover & Co. The merger, which is expected to be completed by the

in both banks soaring on the New York stock market, with Morgan Stanley rising \$7.75 to around \$65 and Dean Witter's by \$1.80 to \$40.50. Under the merger terms, Dean Witter will swap 1.645 shares for every Morgan Stanley share. giving its shareholders a 55 per cent stake in the new

To discourage disruptive counter-bids, both the companies have given each other

> by moving into more stable businesses, particularly in re-tail markets. Among Dean Witter's most successful products is its Dis-cover card, which is the third largest credit and chargecard in the US with 39 million

middle of this year, is remark-

radically different kinds of US

investment bank. Dean Witter's main busi-

ness is selling stocks, bonds,

savings products and credit

investors, while Morgan Stan-

ley concentrates on wholesale

markets. Until 1993 the bank

was owned by Sears, Roebuck

& Co, the US department

store. Morgan Stanley was

looking for ways to stabilise its often volatile earnings from wholesale financial markets

customers and outstanding balances of \$34.4 billion. Dean Witter, which has funds under management of \$90 billion, will also give Morgan Stanley greater distribution power for its own asset management division which, since its purchase of Van Kampen last year, looks after funds of \$171 billion. The merged bank will have \$270





The deal sent the banks' shares up on Wall Street

BY ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT SIR David Walker, head of lets that the newly merged ther shead in making invest-Morgan Stanley, Dean Witments in countries such as Germany. "With a more stater, Discover operation could small presence in London and

Walker hails new opportunities

the merger with Dean Witter, and one that provided great new business opportunities in mainland Europe and Asia. Sir David also said that US investors had an enormous appetite for high quality UK and European share issues and other equity and bond-

Sir David added: "We will eventually look for cost savings, but these will not be a significant feature."

The merger is also expected to lead to a rerating of the enlarged group's stock. Sir David said the enhanced earnings from the merger

M&S plan

relationships on the ground. In the past the earnings from typical investment banking operations, such as the securities business, have tended to be rather volatile."

Above all, yesterday's deal gives Morgan Stanley a headstart on its rivals in making



billion in managed funds.

ScotAm puts itself up for sale as Pru tops Abbey bid

SCOTTISH AMICABLE put itself up for sale yesterday after Prudential Corporation began what is expected to be a . fierce bidding war with Abbey National for the life insurer by tabling a £1.9 billion offer.

The bid came just hours before Scottish Amicable was to have begun mailing a circular to 1.1 million policyholders. This would have recommended that policyholders and flotation plans proposed by Scottish Amicable's board a

fortnight ago.

Abbey National hinted yesterday that it was prepared to increase its initial £1.1 billion to El.4 billion offer. It said its £400 million cash or shares goodwill payment, had always

Scottish Amicable has appointed SBC Warburg to seek competitive offers over the

next formight Prudential is offering £400 million in cash or Prudential shares to policyholders. In addition, it plans to pay £1.1 billion into Scottish Amicable's with-profits life fund and then close it down.

It guarantees to pay policy holders £150 million of special bonuses from cost savings a made in the life fund as soon as the deal is completed, plus a further £250 million from the fund over time, depending on

lien of shareholders' funds to acquire the Scottish Amicable name and business.

Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of Prudential, said: This is a firm offer. Whether it is the final offer depends on the information made available to us by Scottish Amicable."

He gave no guarantee on the future of Scottish Amicable's management team or its employees, but said he wanted to keep the Scottish Amicable name and a significant presence in Scotland and run that



Davis firm offer

cent of all bonuses paid on new business, which will be written in Prudential, and not

Scottish Arrecable life funds. Prodential said the £LI bilfion capital injection paid from Prudential's life fund would permit greater investment flexibility and the generation of higher returns."

Prudential has been working on a bid for Scottish Amicable for over a year and is believed to have already made at least one approach. The deal should give Prudential exposure to new business sold through independent fi-

nancial advisers.

Scottish Amicable's chairman, Sandy Stewart, said the board had ruled out increasing its own terms to policy holders. The board will now seek competing definitive of-ters from other parties, including Abbey National If the offers materialise as we expect them to do it is unlikely that we will remain independent." Abhey National sent a secand letter to Scottish Amicable

yesterday reiterating its offer.

Pennington, page 25

Charles Toner, deputy chief executive of Abbey, said: "We remain confident that our offer will be very attractive.

The company has revealed plans to open its first branch to the Gulf later this veac. Under a franchise agreement with a local partner, the Dubai-based Al-Futtaim Sous, a branch will be opened in either the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar or Oman. It will be the first step by Marks & Spencer, which has close ties with

Israel, into the arab world. Other branches in these countries are set to follow. The agreement with Al-Pottsing Sons does not cover Saudi Arabia, where Marks & Spencer is also eager to

expand. It may seek a sepa-rate partner for that country. Keith Oates, deputy chairman, said that opening in the Gulf is "an important strategic step in our goal to he one of the leading global volume retailers". Mr Oates added: "Sales trends at recently opened stores in Cologne, Bordeaux and Prague have shown growing worldwide demand for

our merchandise." Marks & Spencer expects to appeal both to the exputriate Britons working in the Gulf and to locals.

Markets at record levels as rates stay the same

Cray reveals its crisis point Nearly five months before Cray Electronics issued a shock profits warning that wiped £175 million off the company's value, the group's chief executive believed that its most important business was already at "crisis point". Jon Richards, who used the phrase in an internal letter, remains chief executive of the troubled data company. which recently changed its name to Anite. The picture

that Mr Richards described in

December 1994 completely

contradicts what Cray was

then telling the stock market

Page 27

HORTH SEA OF

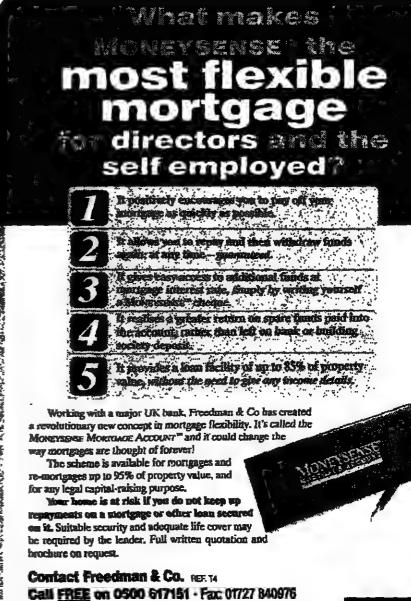
to open branches in Gulf BRITISH and American inter-Y123.50 in late European Shares in Frankfurt and Paris est rates were left unchanged trade, up from DM1.6424 and also closed at new peaks on BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM Y122.30 late on Tuesday. hopes that American interest vesterday, confirming a sense In London, the FT-SE 100 of financial market optimism rates would not be raised. THE Gulf arab women who that sent European stock marindex closed 20.6 points higher flock to Marks & Spencer's Oxford Street branches in kets to close at record levels at 4,281.5, a record finish. and the dollar to a four-year performance. The latter sum is not guaranteed. Prudential will invest around £250 miltions in England." Prudential high against the yen. After Kenneth Clarke, the London will soon be able to buy the same goods nearer shareholders will get 10 per

Chancelior, met Eddie George, Governor of the Bank

of England, yesterday morning, the Bank signalled no change to rates during its money market operations and s not expected to signal any change today. The two-day meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee also ended with no change in US rates. British base rates stay at 6 per cent while, in America, Fed Funds remain at 5.25 per cent. Decisions to leave rates unchanged were widely expected in both cases. Currency strength probably helped to tip the balance against higher rates. After January's monetary meeting only three weeks ago. Mr Clarke cited sterling as a very deflationary force, and yesterday, Wayne Angell, a former Pederal Reserve Gov-

unlikely that the Fed would raise rates while the dollar was rising so strongly. Both currencies were star performers yesterday. Sterling recorded its highest level against the yen since October 1992 and gained more than three plennigs against the mark to close at DM2.6905. It also climbed more than a cent against the dollar. The dollar climbed to DMI.6473 and

ernor, predicted that it was



BT to take key stake in digital venture

By ERIC REGULY

* BRITISH TELECOM is set to be the largest shareholder of the £600 million company that will help to finance the introduction of digital TV in Britain.
The Interactive Services Company, or

Isco, is being formed to subsidise the retail price of the digital set-top boxes to be ordered by BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster. In exchange, Isco's investors— BSkyB, BT, Midland Bank and Matsushita, the Japanese electronics company - are to share in the income generated by the interactive services made possfible by the boxes. BSkyB, which is 40

owner of The Times, and the three other investors expect to reach agreement on Isco's final structure within a few weeks. Their combined investment will probably be no less than \$500 million and as high as £700 million. The money will allow the set-top

boxes to retail in chains, such as Comet and Dixons, for about £200, against a factory price of £500 or so. BSkyB fears that a price that high would ensure that few subscribers would switch from analogue to the digital service. BSkyB said yesterday that it will soon order as many as a million sertop

per cent owned by News International, boxes, allowing it to launch its digital network, with as many as 200 channels, before the end of the year.

Rupert Gavin, BT's multimedia director, would not comment on the negotiations. BT presumably would profit from Isco by supplying the phone connections that would allow the subscribers to communicate with the providers of the home banking and home shopping services.

Midland, which has confirmed that

it is in talks to join 1sco, will probably

provide the home banking service. It

has been negotiating with BSkyB since

November, when Barclays pulled out

of the venture. The HSBC group. Midland's owner, has a keen interest in interactive services. Last year, HSBC signed an agreement to link its Heragon electronic banking service for personal computers to Microsoft's Money for Windows software.

Matsushita, owner of Panasonic, is one of the four electronics companies vying for the BSkyB set-top box order. Others contenders are thought to include Philips, of The Netherlands, Pace Micro Technology, of Britain, Sony, of Japan, and Nokia, of Sweden.

BSkvB set to order, page 25

For the life you don't yet know

ALLIED

New regulations to

fight money scams

NEW regulations aimed at stamping out fraudulent "money

circulation" scams come into force today. They affect not only

the organisers of such schemes but anyone who joins and

tries to persuade other people to take part will also be committing a criminal offence. Money circulation schemes,

where people pay a joining fee — sometimes thousands of pounds — and then receive payments from the people they

recruit, usually fail when recruitment dries up, with those

One supposed money-making venture known as Titan was

shut down by the Government last year, and it was estimated

that investors lost up to £17 million. The Trading Schemes Act

brings money circulation schemes under the control of the

last in most likely to be the losers.

IDS hails public sector

By PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

pay policy

THE Government's public sector pay policy is pro-claimed a success by Britain's leading independent pay analysts as the Cabinet today meets to approve staged wage rises for key public sector employees.

Incomes Data Services (IDS), the independent pay analysts, today says that the policy of a pay bill freeze for the last three years, drawn directly from suggestions by the CBI and following a strict 1.5 per cent pay limit, has been running very successfully from the Government's point of view".

When different stages of the policy were announced, some trade union leaders gave warning of strike action, but IDS notes that the policy "has met with very little effective trade union resistance".

In its latest annual public services pay review, IDS says that the Government's policy "has resulted in lower pay settlements than in much of the private sector" in areas such as local government, health and education.

IDS says that in the third year of the pay bill freeze. there has been greater diversity in pay settlements. with deals running at be-

Investors give ultimatum to Premier Farnell chief

By Jason Nisse

LEADING institutional shareholders have told Howard Poulson, chief executive of Premier Farnell, he has six months to prove that the ELS billion purchase of Premier in the US can work or face being

forced out of the company.

The message was delivered after a series of insitutional meetings in the wake of last week's profits warning from Premier Farnell, which has knocked more than £500 million off its market value. Mr Poulson was in America on

Actress beats

ex-Chancellor

in ad stakes

M&G's advertising agency paid Lord Lawson of Blaby, the former Chancellor, less

than £100,000 for his appear-

ance in the company's new TV

campaign for Peps, considera-bly less than it paid Helen

Mirren, the actress (Gavin

Rainey Kelly Campbell & Rolfe paid Ms Mirren £300,000 for her role in Virgin

Airline's TV adverts. Virgin

Direct, the group's financial

services arm, is a competitor

to M&G in the Pep market.

M&G's two 30-second adverts

will be broadcast next week.

Lord Lawson introduced Peps

Lumsden writes).

stockbroking adviser. Barclays de Zoete Wedd, for the first of a series of analysts' briefings before the company's January 31 year-end. The news was so bad that BZW, which previously had said Premier Farnell did not

have to issue a profit warning, changed its mind. Other meetings were cancelled and the company issued a warning statement two minutes before the market closed.

Wednesday last week when Andrew Fisher, the finance

director, visited the company's

Since then it has been

meeting its leading investors
— led by Scottish Widows, which recently increased its holding above 5 per cent, and

Mercury Asset Management.

It was told the company had to deliver within six months the increased sales it predicted last year when it merged the Farnell and Premier electronic component supply businesses. Otherwise, shareholders would push for management changes, which could include the removal of Mr Poulson.

One senior investor said: This incident has raised major questions about the strength

management. The next six months are an important period where the company has to prove that the initiatives it is putting in place, which it says are sensible, can actually be

proved to be sensible."

Among these moves are the appointment of Malcolm Bates, the former deputy managing director of GEC, as chairman; the merger of the Premier and Farnell catalogues; and the strengthening

of the marketing team.

The first clear sign of any improvement should be seen

sults, due in October.

Shareholders are already questioning whether Mr Bates might be the best person as chairman, having had no direct experience at the top of the quoted company. They also crit-icised Premier Farnell's communication with the City, which led to a public outburst by Mr Poulson attacking BZW for its handling of the profits warning.

Mr Poulson is now working at rebuilding his reputation in the City and was unavailable for comment at the Wetherhy head office yesterday.

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

UTILITIES are heavy-handed with debt collection and are too quick to cut off customers.

Electricity companies forced pre-payment meters

than electricity companies.

The consumer guide, which urges tougher action from the regulators on monitoring companies' debt collection, says too little is being done to help those in the debt' trap. Which? also berates regulatoes for not ensuring greater consistency in disconnections and debt recovery.

Which? berates utilities on cut-offs

NDUSTILIAL CORRESPONDENT

according to a report by Which?, the consumer guide.

their way into more than 25,000 homes last year, while British Gas disconnected more customers in 1995 than all of the electricity companies. British Gas, however, is, for safety reasons, less able to

BT heads the disconnection table, having out off 796,980 customers in the year to June 30, 1996. London Electricity forced its way into more than 14,000 homes last year to install pre-payment meters nearly I per cent of all its

Which? said: "The regulators must toughen up on

Fair Trading Act, said the Department of Trade and Industry. Until now, the DTI had to use time-consuming Companies Act legislation. There is now a penalty of up to RJB in new buyback RIB MINING, the largest coal producer in the UK, yesterday spent £31.5 million to buy back 5 per cent of its shares. The repurchase, totalling 8.5 million shares at a price of 370p, took the company to the limit of its authority to buy back shares in the current financial year. Since last August it has spent £125.5 million on share repurchases. Companies are allowed to repurchase up to 15 per cent of their shares each year.

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Pension redress nearer

THE pensions industry is making progress in its efforts to compensate workers set to suffer financial loss after leaving the Government's earnings related pension scheme, according to a report by the the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the City's senior watchdog. But several pension providers have yet to give a detailed commitment, raising lears of delays, according to the progress report which was originally due to be published last autumn. Pennington, page 25

Gulf holding at 5.56%

GULF CANADA, which is fighting to take over Clyde Petroleum, yesterday claimed to speak for 5.56 per cent of the shares in the target company. On Tuesday Gulf raised its cash offer by 15p to 120p per share, valuing the UK oil exploration and production group at £494.6 million. Yesterday Gulf said it had bought 3.76 per cent since launching its bid to bring its holding, including acceptances, to about 5.56 per cent. So far Clyde has resolutely resisted the approach from the Canadian oil company.

Sony's record forecast

SONY CORP, the Japanese consumer electronics giant, yesterday promised a sharp rise in profits, powered by strong sales of electronic goods and a weak yen. Sony now expects record annual group net profit of 132 billion yen (about £656 million), nearly 2.5 times the net profit in the 1995-96 financial year, on sales of 5.5 trillion yen. Yesterday Sony reported quarterly net profits of 75.38 billion yen and sales of 1.67

Mattel inches ahead

MATTEL, the largest toymaker in America, said foorth-quarter for the Cabbage Patch Kids' Snacktime Kids doll and a special accounting charge. Mattel carned \$113.5 million in the fourth quarter, compared with \$112 million. Earnings for the year were \$379 million, up from \$357 million. Separately. Tyco Toys Inc had reduced fourth quarter losses, because of the popularity of the Tickle Me Elmo doll during Christmas.

Water dispute escalates

NORTH WEST WATER, half of United Utilities, is suing its main computer database supplier after a protracted row between the two sides. The system to manage the water supply was supposed to begin working in 1995 after Oracle had started the project a year earlier. But in the autumn of that year it was halted and the two sides blame each other for its failure. The provider has said that specifications changed since the start of the contract.

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Lord Lawson endorses Peps being sold by M&G in the 30-second TV advert

Judges likely to rule today Buy-in consortium whether SFO in contempt

BY ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

TWO High Court judges are today expected to give a ruling on whether the director of the Serious Fraud Office and four of his senior colleagues are guilty of contempt of court over their handling of an investigation into the \$1.8 billion Sumitomo copper fraud.

After hearing evidence for the second day about an SFO raid on Kay Accounting last Staughton, sitting with Mr in Radlett, Hertfordshire, and Justice Scott Baker, indicated

that he could give a verdict on the contempt charge today. George Staple, the SFO director, Andrew Jackson and

Chris Walker, both fraud office lawyers, and Michael Hainey, a computer expert, and Anne Dilks, a financial investigator have all been named in the contempt proceedings. The case was brought after the SFO raided Lord Justice the offices of Kay Accounting removed documents, comput-

ers and related material The company applied for, and was granted, a court injunction to stop the downloading of computer-held information pending a full hearing. The court heard that the SFO continued to download information for some six hours after the injunction was issued. Edwin Glasgow, QC, for the SFO, said the office had tried to comply with the court injunctions as swiftly as

wins rail franchise

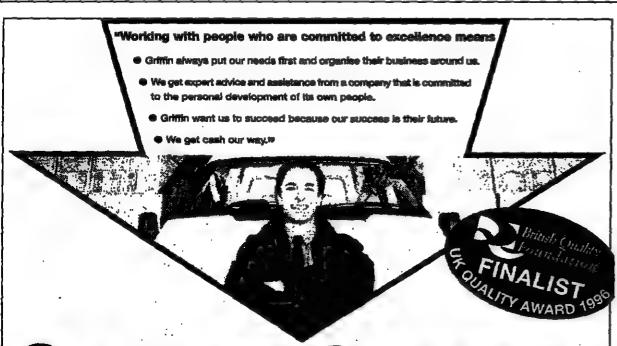
By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

THE franchise for North West Regional Railways, a lossmaking commuter train company operating services in and around Manchester, Liverpool. West Yorkshire and north Wales, has been sold to

a management buy-in. The franchise was awarded to a consortium comprising the management and employees of Great Western Trains, InterCity franchise, FirstBus and 3i. Great Western will have a controlling 51 per cent

share. The consortium, known as Great Western Holdings (GWH), has pledged to provide extra local services and new long distance services to London. It will spend £1.5 million on refurbishing existing trains, £5 million on improving stations and £1 million a year on additional

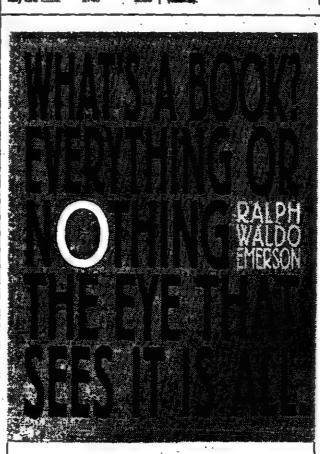
security measures. Under BR the franchise million. GWH will get average subsidy of £148.3 million



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☐ Threat from Dean Witter and Morgan merger ☐ Watchdog's subtle approach to pensions ☐ Pru's hat in the ring

Marriage of brain and brawn

□ WHY do so many American investment banks have names that suggest Hollywood film or soap stars? Dean Witter is surely the honest but rough-edged hero, dressed in a plaid shirt no doubt, an oil man or a farmer, Morgan Starley, note the androgynous forename, the Barbie-haired vamp who leads him astray until the last reel.

While most of America was transfixed by the latest O. J. Simpson drama, this surprise soap opera wedding was absorbing the financial markets. It is as if Schroders had taken up with the Share Shop, except on a scale a hundred times greater. Dean Witter is the name in retail broking, the Shares 'R' Us with, on average, seven branches in each state even if the retail base

is a little more downmarket.

Morgan Stanley has come a
long way since it refused to employ Jews; and the only blacks were shiring shoes in the lobby. Now it ranks number one in the world market for mergers and acquisitions advice, and you don't get there by being sniffy

about whom you employ.

The idea is that Morgan's brainpower and fund manage-ment skills are allied to Dean

American house to have built pre-eminence in both areas, Merrill Lynch. The scope for expansion is into areas of the

world where there is untapped demand for equity finance. The deal might seem to favour Morgan more than Dean Witter, in that it lessens the former's reliance on investment banking. where earnings are inevitably tied to volatile M&A activity. It is also, plainly, an alternative to Morgan's planned book-up with our own dear Warburg, now

swallowed by SBC. This last merger suggests just where the new American alli-ance could go wrong, the old problem of culture clash. Warburg's people left in droves because they did not like the rather racy Swiss Bank culture. Likewise the 1980s creation of Shearson Lehman, which fell apart by the end of the decade. In Morgan/Dean Witter's fa-your is the fact that both are such

different beasts. But you do not

create an integrated business by injecting a small amount of banking brain into a financial

If it does work, we had all better watch out, in London as on Wall Street. If and when stock markets turn, the shake-out in financial circles could be horrendous, and the race will be to the bigger runners. Why else should boutiques such as Hambro Magan and Phoenix Securities have decided to throw their hands in with the big battalions?

SIBology, and other sciences

☐ IN THE days of the old Soviet Union, the need to decipher the nuances of political life led to the foundation of a modern science Kremlinology. If Kruschev parted his hair on a different side, canny Kremlinologists would be able to deduce who was in and out of favour.

PENNINGTON



similar science at the Securities and Investments Board. The City's most senior watchdog was inveiling its survey of progress in aiding victims of the pensions upheavals of the Eighties. No, not the mis-selling scandal

again. The SIB was checking on the fortunes of people who contracted out of Serps, the Government's earning-related pension scheme. In the 1980s, millions were persuaded by financial inducements to transfer their contributions to a personal

Up to 238,000 people may be

last May, the SIB said flat charges levied by pension providers were a big factor in these losses. Many life insurers promised to change their ways. As an incentive, the SIB said it would check on progress in another report.

This status report turned out to be an astonishingly anodyne document, concluding that steps are being taken to mitigate problems. No sign of any real regulatory displeasure.

But what was that? A flutter of the cycbrow of chief executive the eyebrow of chief executive Andrew Winckler? A discreet, Jeeves-like cough? Indeed, sir. Conscious of the fact that it has no control of charges levied by persion providers, the S1B is resorting to regulation by a mudge and a wink, part of a general strategy to find more effective measures than fining. effective measures than fining. it turns out several companies

are dragging their heels. SIB-ologists, aware of the new approach, were presented with enough information in the report to spot regulatory impatience beneath the placid surface. Prevarications from life companies who are "conducting a review" of the situation, without any timetabled commitment to actually completing it, were re-ported verbatim. Just for the record, mind. Wink, wink.

Winners and losers in ScotAm battle

A MILLION trees can breathe again. Scottish Amicable has bowed to the inevitable and is pulling the 80-page document that was to have gone out at the weekend to its 1.1 million mem-bers. Instead it is a straight bidding war for the insurer, all sensible prices considered, please, as long as they are higher than the £1.9 billion the Pruden-

tial is offering.

The first might come from the Abbey itself, whose play for ScotAm was always a sighting shot. The Pru's approach is a payment with additional bo-nuses added to policies and putting a firm £1.1 billion price on the life fund. The policyholders will be the winners. The ScotAm board, given the different cultures that prevail in the two organisations, will be the losers. Unlike the Abbey, the Pru is making no promises to them.

Signal failure

☐THE money markets are one of those arcane crannies of the City that outsiders never really understand. Time was when a gentleman in a top hat from the Bank of England did the rounds of the money brokers; nowadays it is all done on screens. But the twice or thrice-daily ritual is still adhered to, and this is how we all know what we will be paying in future for our mortgages and bank loans. Except that yes-terday we didn't technical reasons and tradition meant that rates could rise today, but most likely they will not. The signal from the Bank stayed stuck on amber. There must be a better way of signalling the country's main economic indicator. Perhaps a puff of grey smoke from Threadneedle Street?

BSkyB to order 1m set-top boxes as profits rise 26%

BSKYB, the satellite broadcaster, confirmed yesterday that it will order as many as a million set-top boxes, costing £500 million or more, for its digital television launch in the autumn. The company's plans to enter the German digital-TV market, however, have run into obstacles.

The announcements came as BSkyB reported a 26 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £134 million, in the half year to December 31. It also reported the recruitment of a record 434,000 new subscribers in the. final quarter. BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The

and the Irish Republic. The company said the set-top box order was "mminent" and that it was in negotiations with four potential manufacturers. It would not identify them, but they are thought to include Matsushita, the Japanese owner of the Panasonic brand, and Pace Micro Technology, the British set-top box maker. Sam Chisholm, chief execu-

tive, said the boxes, with the addition of a relatively inexpensive electronic "sidecar", will be compatible with the digital terrestrial transmissions that are to begin next year. Cariton and Granada, the ITV companies, and Times, now has about six BSkyB formed a company last million subscribers in the UK week called British Digital



Chisholm: keeping analogue

Broadcasting to bid for the terrestrial ficences. Mr Chisholm said that BSkyB will continue to offer analogue services for "five

that analogue systems are "the cheapest way" for new sub-scribers to take satellite TV.

In Germany, BSkyB is in negotiations to buy 49 per cent of DFI, the digital-TV com-pany controlled by Kirch, the media group. DFI has not gained as many subscribers as expected and analysts said that it needed a marketing agreement or merger with Premiere, a German pay-TV service that is one-quarter owned by Kirch, to boost its

Mr Chisholm said: "There are some important issues that need to be resolved, and until they're resolved, we won't proceed ... If we don't proceed, there will be no cost involved to Sky."

to strike an agreement with Kirch and Premiere because become Europe's largest pay-

TV market. BSkyB's interim earnings per share were 7.1p, compared with 5.6p, on turnover that rose 26 per cent to £585.6 mil-lion. Higher subscription revenue was behind the stronger figures. Revenue from cable customers rose 62 per cent, to £83.1 million, reflexing the continued expansion of the cable networks. Revenue from the direct-to-home subscribers was up 21 per cent to £410 million

An interim dividend of 2.75p, up 10 per cent, is to be paid on April 4. The shares closed at 623p, up 30p.

Euro Disney finance chief to depart

EURO DISNEY, operator of the Disney theme park near Paris, announced yes-terday that Xavier de Mezerac, its finance director, is to leave after two and a half years (Sarah Cun-

ningham writes). His decision follows the company's decision to hive off his responsibilities for information technology and purchasing, a spokesman said. M de Mezerac is expected to become finance director of another leading French company.

dent of Euro Disney, will temporarily oversee finan-cial matters. M de Mezerac took over as finance director in August 1994 after Michael Montgomery, who oversaw much of Euro Disney's refinancing, left,

Triplex bows out of Cook bid battle

BY FRASER NELSON

TRIPLEX LLOYD, the specialist engineering company, has abandoned its £72.5 million bid for rival William Cook, ending the

bitterlyfought takeover battle. Graham Lockyer, Triplex's chief executive, said the company was faced with either walking away from the bid, or delivering a knockout blow significantly above the £79.5 million buyout bid tabled by Cook's management team. He said: "We could not af-

ford to keep going back with a higher offer — if we were going to make a bid, it would have to have been a decisive one. In the end, we decided we could not put something together with sufficient security. Andrew Cook, chairman of

William Cook, said: "I have said all along that persistence

and determination alone are omnipotent. This is the best result for everyone concerned."

Mr Cook, whose great grandfather founded the compeny 92 years ago, now has a

clear run to buy the firm back from the market. He is putting £2.5 million of his own money into the bid, which will lift his stake from 4 to 14 per cent. Under terms imposed by Electra Fleming, the venture

capital group putting £38 million into the buyout, Mr Cook's salary will fall from £500,000 to £200,000 a year, and the length of his contract will drop from five years to two.

Triplex said its decision to retreat was not connected with the public rebuke it suffered from the Takeover Panel, over leaking information during

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Siemens Nixdorf: User Centred Computing

my is doing better. With a 134-year history in Brazil, Lloyds held on to its Latin

American debt, and is now writing some of

its provisions back Although Multiplic

made \$110 million in 1995, Lloyds should

note that it lost \$77 million the year before.

Swings and roundabouts are the curse of a cyclical economy which many fear is now

Lloyds TSB has done extremely well over

the last seven or eight years selling mortgates, insurance and unit trusts to UK

homeowners. Its overseas diversions have, thankfully, been few. Lloyds TSB may be

an old hand at Brazil but it is just the place

where banks tend to lose money. This deal

should be treated with the upmost caution.

Latin love affair



EMI shares at low as blues hit music industry

THE hammer came down again on EMI Group, the other half of the recently demerged Thorn EMI. The price dropped through the El2 level with a fall of 5212p to a new low of Ell.4712 as the City takes an increasingly bearish view of the music industry

EMI has now fallen almost 250p in the past month and now stands 332p below its peak since being demerged from Thorn last year, Poor figures from Sony, one of the world's biggest music produc-ers, and a host of American record companies has highlighted the deteriorating state of the record and CD market, Music Land, a big US record and CD retailer, last week filed for protection from bankruptcy under Chapter II.

some brokers take the view that EMI is now looking oversold, but all of them agree that 1997 looks like being a tough year for the group. Thorn, which has seen its share price halve since the demerger, rose 412p to 200p.

Elsewhere, share prices hit a new intra-trading high of 1,286.9 as investors began to take an increasingly optimistic view of the authook for interest rates either side of the Atlantic. Helped by a positive start to trading on Wall Street, the FT-SE 100 index ended 20.6 up at a new closing high of 4,281.5, with a fresh wave of institutional buying lifting turnover to 790 million shares.

The Prudential Corporation rose 131ap to 554p after throwing its hat in the ring by topping Abbey National's £1.4 billion offer for Scottish Amicable. Brokers now expect other bidders to show their hand as the battle for control of Scottish Amicable turns into a Dutch auction. Abbey finished 5p down at 782p.

The banks were firmer ahead of the dividend reportig season which gets under way next week. HSBC rose 21p to £15.2212, Standard Chartered 1412p to 78612p. Bardays 812p to Ell.6812p, and National Westminster 10p to 79612p.

The news that Triplex Lloyd was allowing its bid for William Cook to lapse came too tate to affect the shares. William Cook closed unchanged at 425p, as did Triplex at

1971 ap.
ICI was a steady market. rising 712p to 76412p in front of full-year figures today expected to show a sharp downturn in pre-tax profits. BT was in

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Richard Budge of RJB, 5p firmer after a share buyback

confident mood ahead of third-quarter results, out today, with the price hardening 1312p to 444p on turnover of 27.7 million shares.

Some positive comments from ABN Amro Hoare Govert, the broker, were good news for Shell, 17p better at £10.80, while Tomkins added Sp at 2831 ap as SBC Warburg. the broker, upgraded its

shareholders that revenues had grown strongly in the first quarter and he was confident about the year as a whole.

T&N retreated 21ap to 164p as a total of 6.4 million shares were recorded at 160p, stretching total turnover on the day to 7.4 million.

RIB Mining, which took over running the rump of British Coal under Richard

Budge, chief executive, firmed

5p to 375p after completing a

buyback of 5 per cent of its

own stock. It paid 390p for the

8.56 million shares, worth

Shield Diagnostics extend-

ed this week's remarkable run

with a rise of a further 8p to

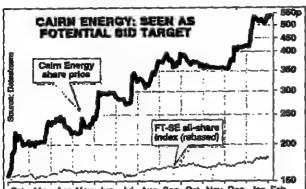
25712p, stretching the rise of

£33.4 million.

Dixons rallied 10p to 49212p after Tuesday's fall. Cazenove, the company's broker, is said to have told clients that selling has been overdone. Last week, Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman, sold 1.1 million shares at 520p after criticising Greig Middleton, the broker, for urging its own clients to sell.

"hold" to a "buy". The City gave a warm reception to half-year figures from BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by News International, that owns The Times, which responded with a jump of 2912p

at 623p. Cariton slipped 10p to 552p in spite of an upbeat statement



the past two days to 88p. about current trading. Mich-Cairn Energy finished lip ael Green, chairman, told better at 538p on revived hopes

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of a bid for Cairn has been fuelled by Gulf Canada's bid for Clyde Petroleum, un-

changed at 120p.

Ropner climbed 12p to 142p after agreeing a £33.7 million bid from Jacobs Holdings

Bid hopes lifted British Building and Engineering Appliances 15p to 6812p afte Britannia Group lifted it holding to 11.8 per cent with 550,000 shares at 5414t Britannia was lo firmer at 31p Sira Business Services ros

340 to 40 after weighing in with interim pre-tax profits more than doubled £285,000. Brokers say the ALM-listed industrial and commercial cleaner should clear £800,000 for the year.

MS International is the latest to complain about the effects of a strong pound on business. The shares slipped 40 to 20p after the engineering group cautioned of disappointing second-half trading at its fork arm division. A profits warning also took its toil of West 175 Enterprises. which produces and licenses cookery programmes, with the

price ending 20p down at 95p. Disappointing results from Eurocamp left the price 3p easier at 231p and disappointtrading news hit Nightfreight, the parcel delivery specialist, lop down at 58p. Blacks Leisure, one of the

stock, market's best performing shares last year, jumped a further 13p to 42011p, while the bears were being squeezed harder still in MAID, the information database specialist, with the price adding a further 14p at 18612p.

Manchester United fell 9p

to 710p after being dumped out of the FA Cup by Wimbledon's Crazy Gang at Selhurst Park.

GILT-EDGED: This week's strong run faltered as the profit-takers emerged.

The March series of the long gilt touched £1122322 before closing E'4 down at 1112 Turnover was 108,000 contracts.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost E14 to £10514. while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £316 lower at £1032132.

☐ NEW YORK: Shares were mixed at midsession as renewed weakness in the technology sector tempered a cautious advance by blue chips. The Dow Jones industrial average was 11.55 higher at 6,845.03.

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GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Bains & Co).

Bullion: Open \$345.35-343.05 Close: \$342.70-343.20 High: \$343.50-344.30

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

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Law: \$342.00-342.50 AM: \$343.15 (materials \$342.00.346.00 (£209.25-21), 25)

MANUFER DIDECTO BACK in the late-1980s, embittered customers of Lloyds Bank would confront hapless tellers and demand according to the confront hapless tellers are confront hapless tellers and demand according to the confront hapless tellers are confront happened to confront happened tellers are confront happene and demand equal treatment with Brazil. thus. "Why can't you reschedule my loan?" The bank was writing off hundreds of millions of pounds of Latin American debt to. the irritation of less notorious customers whose houses were being repossessed. After all someone with a bad debt record would not get a mortgage from Lloyds TSB. However, the organisation is shortly to spend up to £400 million buying a Brazilian bank. Lloyds TSB insists that there is no

comparison. The group already has a 50 per cent stake in Banco Multiplic, and it is pursuing the consumer credit business. The bank reckons lending to impoverished people who do not have bank accounts is different from loans to the Government or large M&G COULD there be a sublimi-

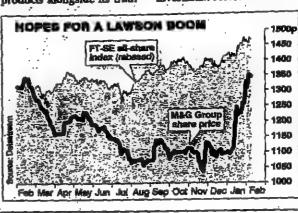
nal message in M&G's decision to use a former Chancellor of the Exchequer products? M&G had a torrid time of it in 1996 and the previous year was pretty indifferent too. The house style is to avoid blue chips market leaders; socalled value investing focuses on financial measures of value and tends to favour smaller, high-yielding stocks. Over the last two years the voured high growth and high-er risk businesses, such as

biotechnology companies.
What M&G needs is a bout of instability, enough to upset the balmy dimate of low inflation and steady growth and demonstrate the attractions of high yielders. Who better to promote such

a state of affairs than Lord Lawson, the architect of the Thatcher boom and bust? Unfortunately, for M&G, the former Chancellor's new modelling career is not of the financial variety. Instead, M&G has decided to bend with the wind, hiring a new fund manager and introducing growth-oriented products alongside its tradi-

at its apex.

tional stable. The move has caused its stock to perk up and M&G's buge share of the retail market has caused bid speculation to re-emerge. But M&G still has to wrestle with the possibility that its fundamental assumptions could be flawed. Another year of this buil market could badly hurt M&G's investment record.



Jacobs

IN three years the new management at Jacobs Holdings has been busy. It has sold its fleet of 17 coastal vessels, acquired a car transporter business, bought Embassy property and sold its principal asset, Kingsway retail park.
Just when it seemed to be

going quiet last year, it paid E2 million for Arcade Traffic Management, the wheel clamper, bought some more property and made a hostile bid for Ropper, another property and shipping group. Not to be deterred

Ropner's rejection, Jacob's has now won the board round with a £33.7 million cash-and-share bid. For Jacobs to announce on the same million on the Dartford International Ferry Terminal may look like over-egging the pudding, but Jacobs swears that the two deals just happened to coincide. Business is looking up at Dartford foilowing the closure of a rival service to Vlissingen in Holland, and the settlement of a dispute which kept one of its ferries out of action.

Ropner expects to make a pre-tax profit of £2.65 million in the year just ended, £2 million less than the year before. Only a sentimental Ropner shareholder is likely to object to the Jacobs bid.

WHY advertise a merger? The drummers beating a tattoo on the BP and Mobil oil tanks is a curiously wasteful The combination of the downstream businesses of the two companies will have sion of the Mobil petrol brand and the BP lubricants brand. If the purpose of consumer advertising is to imprint brands into the public consciousness, it is pointless. Why advertise the loss of a

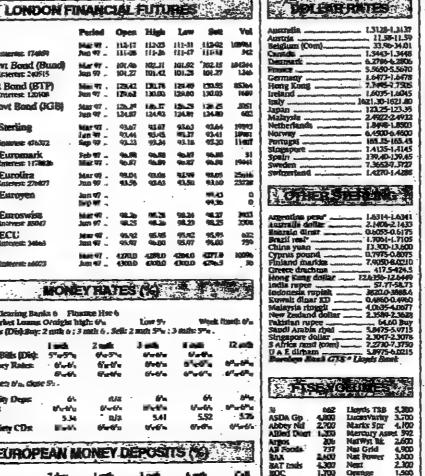
shareholders that the joint venture is working. By all accounts it is proceeding well and rumours suggest the venture could be extended further afield. But the wild card is the possibility of a full merger of the two companies whose strengths are nicely complementary.

Upstream, BP is oil rich while Mobil is gassy. BP is weak in the Far East where Mobil has a strong position. Mobil lacks a stake in Alaska where BP has huge reserves. On a superficial view, there is a neat logic in putting the two

That is a long way from a merger but BP, like Mobil. has come far in the past few years, challenging a lot of conventional oil industry wis-

Brands are one of the oil industry's sacred cows and if those can be sacrificed, the two companies could be ad-

This is corporate advertis- EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED





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CO A LARCON BOOM



Overseas challenge

LORD MacLAURIN of Knebworth was yesterday crowned KPMG Business man of the Year.

The outgoing chairman of the supermarket chain Tesco couldn't be present at the Grosvenor House reception, however. As chairman of the UK Sports Council, he is overseas looking after England's

"beleaguered cricketers". Lord MacLaurin apologised to guests via a video recording, made before heading off to New Zealand. "I guess there are a few challenges over there too," he quipped.

Early departure

A BEVY of politicians attended the party for Sir Robin Tobs, the retiring chairman of Lloyds TSB on Tuesday. Michael Heseltine, a brace of Bottomleys, Sir Geoffrey and Lady Howe, and Peter Mandelson were among the impressive turnout from industry, the City, and politics, for the banker who retires on Friday. Guests who arrived after 6.30pm, however, would have missed Peter Ellwood, the chief executivedesignate -- he had a very pressing and long-stand-

JOHN Strickland, chairman of HSBC, is paying particular attention to the bank's former flagship of-fices in Shanghai. On the behest of the Chinese authorities, the Hongkong bank agreed to vacate the building in 1955, More recently, Strickland has been approached to buy it back. He said, with a wry smile on his face: "They wanted too much money."



MAN 1.7968

Prime mistake

SIR John Egan will be

none too pleased with the Department of National Heritage. The august body yesterday produced Success through Partnership — A Strategy for Tourism, a glossy publica-tion in which Sir John was referred to as head of the British Airports Authority and British Tourist Authority. Almost ten years ago, when the company was privatised, a dictum was set in stone that it should henceforth be known only as BAA plc. In the same 35-page bro-chure, John Major was referred to as "Prime Minster" and the United Kingdom was displayed on a colourful graph as a sun/ski destination.

Golden idea

IN protest against economists and politicians dithering over a single European currency, a specialist sports car company m Crediton, Devon, is quoting prices in gold bullion. Marlin Cars, which manufactures Hunter two-scater sports cars, is valuing its latest sports tourer at 850z of precious metal. "We are sick and tired of all this posturing over whether the UK should opt in, opt out, or even twin-track," a cynical Terry Matthews, director, said. We have decided to go it alone and cut short the debate by being more than happy to quote international prices of our cars in gold," he added. "As a unit of value, gold is recognised the world over as a form of constant and hedge against monetary uncer-

MORAG PRESTON

any years ago, the new boss of a sprawling northern engineering company was asked what he expected the company to look like in five years time. "In five years' time, laddie, I'il be dead", came the instant deadpan response. He was 68 at the time, bore a slight resemblance to Pope John XXIII and had been waiting in the wings for years. Sadly, his self-diagnosis proved currect. Within three years between this old man in the self-diagnosis proved currect. three years, however, this old man in a hurry had transformed the company he had

worked for all those years. Barring some bizarre circumstance, that is most unlikely to happen today. Having failed to make the top the first time, our future chairman would have been been discarded in his fifties to become a consultant or professional non-executive. In any case, City fund managers averaging about half that age would never voluntarily accept a new driving force for a quoted company who was already past the state retirementage. Such is the prejudice against even middle age that anyone over 55 is at a disadvantage when it comes to the choice of

a new chief exemine. Under-fifties are even preferred when political parties choose potential new chief executives for the country. Issue-free imagemakers argue that they present a more attractive image of vigour to the nation's voters. Bob Dole did not stand a chance. Such intolerance is not confined to the

over-fifties. There is just as much prejudice

Gilded youth can spice up that politically correct board

against young people at the top, though it comes out in a different way. This week, a new executive director was appointed at Next who is claimed to be the youngest at a top-100 company. Maybe. At 29, the appointec is scarcely a beardless youth and has worked six years for Next. The trouble is, as querulous City head-shaking, sniffing and muttering attests, that Simon Wolfson is the son of Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, chairman of Next as well as of Great Universal Stores, the Wolfson family company.

Lord Wolfson and David Jones, the chief executive who sought to advance Wolfson fils, have made so much money for Next shareholders that they will be allowed to offend the delicate nostrils of institutional investors, now hyper-allergic to nepotism. But these notineau riche levellers have already issued warnings. Mr Wolfson will be watched with hooded eyes, especied to perform better than others to justify his irregular path to the board.

Such prejudice has dogged Robert Hanson, son of Lord Hanson, and the late Simon Weinstock, son of the creator of the modern



GEC, among others. It placed an extra burden on Sir Rocco Forte. No wonder most magnates' children choose to make their way clsewhere, where their name is usually an unqualified, if less potent asset. Few would suggest a neturn to dynastic succession. There are too many examples, from the first Lord Rothschild on, where a patriarch's family values send more able outsiders away and stultify growth, GUS has lost such people, as well as finding some in the family. Industry still needs a leaven of uninhibited young people at the top, just as it sometimes needs the considered and mature judgment of the aged. How else are they to be recruited, except by fathers giving their children a first-class ticket for the fast track to the top — as well as a fast-track to understanding how business works.

Who would have ever heard of Alexander

the Great if he had not been the king of Macedon's carefully prepared son, but had so get on the hard way, taking on many compromises and obligations in the process. By taking over at 20 after his father's assassination - no golden handshakes then - he was able to conquer most of the known world in his twenties. By the age at which Simon Wolfson has become the junior of five executive directors of Next, Alexander was about to turn back exhausted from the Indian monsoons, his revolutionary life's

work largely done.

The 1944 Education Act ushered in the age of meritocracy. Its children were schooled to rise gradually to the top. We were to

ability that was to be demonstrated by performance, regardless of birth or privi-lege. This was as good a formula as any. But even in its ideal form, which naturally bore only a limited likeness to reality, it was a formula for getting able people to the top, more than getting them there young. As industry eventually discovered, it did not breed much entrepreneurial skill either.

The enterprise culture, which succeeded meritocracy with a suitable gap after the next educational reform, is more flexible. If they are sufficiently determined, able, arrogant and daring, young people can parlay themselves rapidly to the higher reaches via self-promotion and the head-

hunting system. This transatlantic system is helping to open up business and turn creativity into action. But this school is no more the universal answer to good management than was the meritocracy. Too often, its successful graduates are most skilful at promoting themselves and filling their pockets, more devoted to getting on than to the organisations they aspire to lead. To many of them, the true business is themselves.

The more industry is tied to a rigid formula of recruitment, the worse our chances of success, whether it is devised by the political establishment, by City investors or by well-meaning regulatory codes. A bit of managerial risk-taking, including dynastic privilege, spices the mixture - provided

Gas industry starts to feel the pressure

Consumer inertia is

hampering

market, says

Christine Buckley

occupation in domes-tic gas supply, avail-able to 500,000 households in the South West since early last year, will be extended to Dorset and the former county of Avon from Monday. Next month homes in Kent and Sussex will also be able to buy gas from a new generation of suppliers established to challenge a monopoly previously held by British Gas.

But liberalisation of the gas market has met a mixed response from domestic consumhouseholds choosing an alternative supplier despite the promise

of cost savings.

Gas companies and the Government must hope that competition will gain momentum. Customers have shown reluctance in switch from British ers offer discounts of up to 20 per cent, and despite the relentless criticism of British Gas's

poor customer service record. Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, is not unhappy with progress aithough she hopes rival gas companies will enjoy greater success. Potential cuslomers in the South West may have been deterred by the uncertain start to gas trials in the region. Problems with British Gas's final bills and adverse nublicity about aggressive doorstep selling, prompting the in-



Clare Spottiswoode has refused to condemn doorstep selling despite conceding that the practice has impeded some development of competition

tervention of the Office of Pair ers simply do not understand Trading, bear some responsibility for the modest transfer levels. Ms Spottiswoode believes. Sweb, the local electricity company, was the target of

much of the criticism. She said: "Sweb has virtually stopped marketing now. We thought they would take away much more of the market than they did because they were the local electricity company.

The bad publicity has harmed not only Sweb but has made other companies more cautious about how they go about marketing."

In the event Calortex, a joint venture between Calor Gas and Terraco, has taken pole position in the South West.

Doorstep selling has flour-ished, mainly because consum-

what is happening. The need for greater consumer aware-ness has been consistently stressed by the Gas Consumers Council. Buying energy from a variety of suppliers is a new concept and many are confused about key issues, such as how the gas will come into their home and who bears responsibility for faults and safety. In the absence of a public education programme

advice to the person representing a British Gas rival to sell In the South West Ofgas information leaflets took a free ride with a TransCo pamphlet. Now Ofgas is using leaflets in local free newspapers to ex-plain how gas will be sold in

many customers turned for

competition with British Gas. There will also be advertising on local radio. The Treasury is currently considering a request from Ofgas for additional funds for a broader nationwide public awareness

So far Ofgas has refused to condemn doorstep selling de-spite conceding it has impeded some development of competition. Ms Spottiswoode said: "There have been rogues; if you look at some of the stories then there are clearly lies that have been told." Ofgas wants customers to get a return call from someone who is not a salesman after an initial sales

The success of Phase II of domestic gas liberalisation will in some part determine

the roll-out programme. That programme could start later this year although Ofgas will only promise that all 19 million gas consumers will be able to shop around by April 1998. By then the market in electricity is also supposed to have opened to competition. although there are growing doubts about the industry's

ability to meet this deadline. Ofgas consultants are working with TransCo, British Gas's pipelines business, and the main body of British Gas to determine the next areas for gas liberalisation and possible starting dates.

London is not likely to be the next region to join the market although it would be a lucrative ground for gas companies.

the timeframe for the rest of Administrative dictates are likely to push the next phase into a geographically distinct region. While there has been some suggestion that the next phase could start as soon as June, the regulator says this is not feasible: "It is not just when we could; it is when we

should as well."

Next week a meeting with the Gas Consumers Council will start to shortlist dates and places. A consensus of all parties is being sought. From a publicity point of view Ofgas had looked at bringing in the next phases by ITV regions, but that proved too difficult.

Ms Spottiswoode is making clear that she has little time for protestations that competition will require huge technical oper-ations and attributes much of

the complaints from British Gas to its dispute over pricing and that, while competition is delayed, it preserves market share and therefore profits. "Once you remove the politics and take a cold-hearted look at what is really required, it is very little. They do need some more hardware but that isn't expensive. They certainly don't need to do lots of rewriting of

the network code." Ofgas also discounts fears that British Gas's problems with its national billing system will erupt into further chaos as competition spreads. They have had serious problems but they were not in the competition area. British Gas has said numerous times that they put the system in for competition but while that is true they didn't have to put it in right now. They installed it in 1996 while they had the whole of 1997 before needing a national

Last year British Gas's £150 million computerised billing system was thrown into chaos thousands of disconnection. notices were sent to customers who had not yet received bills.

Europe is showing interest in this latest development in competitive gas, the regulator international visitors to the watchdog's London offices. Continental governments. says Clare Spottiswoode, are coming under increasing pressure to emulate Britain in an

effort to drive down prices. It had been anticipated re gional electricity companies would take a large share of gas sales while the industry still awaits the arrival of a his brand seller. Large retail groups, such as supermarkets and mail order firms, are interested in the energy supply market but could wait until both markets have been operational for some time.

or more if online a higher sale tarmer

£1 deal puts the 'Cray twins' back in spotlight

A years, Cray Electronics is trying to start afresh by changing its name to Anite Group. Yet the former stock market high-flyer has still to rid itself of the two men central to its past misfortunes. Roger Holland, Cray's former

chairman, and Jon Richards, who has survived as chief executive, were at the helm when the company issued a shock profits warning in April 1995 — months after they first learnt of mounting problems. Two years on, the Cray twins remain at the heart of the

data communications company. Tomorrow Anite's shareholders are set to approve the sale of Case Technology UK, an apparently disastrously loss-making manufacturing business, to Nileband, a new company headed by Mr Holland. Even Alec assembled by Daly, who has taken over as Anite's chairman, regards Mr ael to save Holland's involvement as "uitdesirable. One leading shareholder said: The fact that Holland is there does not leave a

particularly good small." Mr Richards has adapted to Anite's straitened circumstances - it announced half-year losses of £63.5 million last month - by taking an Aston Martin as his

new company car. usl00 . The sale of Case Technology UK, along with that of Case Technology Denmark, are intended to leave Anite with a profitable software and network integration business and El7 million in the bank. The Denmark business has attracted a £44 million offer from Intel, the big American computer chipcompany, in spite of shrinking annual sales of about EIS million and £11.5 million of losses in pounds in the next few years.

with ageing products and a poor record on product development, sales have collapsed to, perhaps, £20 million a year. Losses were £13.5 million last year: £12.15 million in the latest six months.

It looks hopeless, but Mr Holland is far from foolish. With Mr Richards, 15 years years his junior, as his protege and close friend. Mr Holland has made an estimated fortune of £25 million - mostly from Miles 33.

a newspaper typesetting company, but also from Cray. The pair were part of the manage ment team Sir Peter Mich-Cray from its .1989 crisis. Their reward WAS & CONTROversial incen-

tive scheme that paid out £27 million in company's fortunes crashed

along with its shares. With Case UK, Mr Holland is picking up a company with £15.5 million of assets for £1 and Anite is to provide £4 million of working capital over two years, rent-free accommodation in Watford and other services. Even the Amite sale document envisages a possibility of the UK business being sold for several million the past 18 months. The prob- It is not clear who would

wretched lems at the UK business look benefit if Mr Holland does lectronics even more severe. Plagued restore Case UK's fortunes. Nileband's biggest shareholder is Marathon Incorporated, a British Virgin Islands company whose owners are un-known. Mr Richards has told the board he has no financial interest in Nileband, Mr Daly said: "When Roger emerged as a potential associate of this

whole thing, we didn't let Jon Richards near it." twins well are astonished that the Case UK sale has not provoked

more protest. Former associates agree Mr the pair are "incredibly relationship was sealed land gave Mr Richards El million, a sign of gratitude for steering Miles 33 through a successful Bonet.

Flush with

Richards Asion Martin

their success. shares, although only Sir Peter Mr Holland and Mr Richards sold his stake before the are said to have taken their eye off the ball during 1994. Documents revealed today by The Times show that Mr Richards was aware of serious probleans at Cray Communications, the arm responsible for 80 per cent of group profits, by the beginning of December 1994. This was six weeks before Mr Holland announced upbeat interim resuits showing increased profits of £10.1 million - and nearly five months before the

profits warning that wiped out

value in a single day.

letter dated December 1, 1994, Mr Richards told Ray Piggott, chief executive of Cray Communications: "It now appears Cray Communications has reached crisis point. At a trading level, Cray Commonications lost £1 million in the first half against a budgetted (sic) profit of £10 million. You currently have an overdraft in excess of £10 million, against a half-year cash target of an El million surplus. November was the worst ever month for Cray Communications and follows the first half where

order imput was consistently Yet on January 11, 1995, Cray reported first-balf profits from Communications of £7.8 million, along with rising sales and margins. Mr Holland said the group's investment in Cray Communications will lead to further growth and increased profits". Mr Piggott had been sacked by this stage, though no men-

tion was made of this. Mr Daly said the Stock Exchange had dropped its investigation into whether Cray had misled the market and he had no plans to look again at Mr Richards's role in the deback. He said keeping Mr Richards as chief executive had been difficult decision for the board. However, with Mr Richards having sacked most of the senior management team of Cray Communications, and after the departure of Mr Holland, Mr Daly needed someone who knew

PAUL DURMAN

As the most mention of the work op year lifebook entering - part and fatory - year will see that you will almost WITH V MITTION certainly care a fortune in your lifetant it could alid up to a militar practic - or The trackle is. the most people you'll and-missails. Of course, what you could be doing it whing this fireness and pursuit some of it

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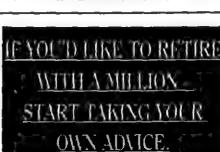
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IRS is like a great breath of fresh air.

Booglas Helliti, TV and Radio Financial Commentato

But in you can see Soccessful Personal Investigat is definitely not just some collection of "test tops" or boring विकास कार्याक कार्यक अंक्ष्स कार्याक कार्याचे वस विकास by-step, the a sample recipe. So you talk just those steps that are right for your SEAR IN WEND TOO, that the publisher

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مكذا من الاصل

Limited liability

president of Jersey's most powerful government body, the Policy and Resources Committee, and Colin Powell, chief adviser to the States of Jersey, are among witnesses called to give evidence before a public inquiry examining the way in which the island's controversial limited liability partnerships law was prepared. The hearings start on February 17.

partnerships law - first of its kind in Europe -received the approval of the Privy Council in December and should come into force in late spring. Parliamentary debates have aired concern that the law had been fast-tracked through the island's legislative process.

Angerstein up

Angerstein Underwriting Trust said yesterday it now owns, advises or manages about £940 million of underwriting capacity at the Lloyd's of London insurance market, representing 9.1 per cent of the total market for the 1997 underwriting year. The interim dividend for the half year to November 31 is increased to 1.2p (1.1p). Net revenue rose to E1.94 million (E1.65 million).

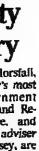
Welsh aid

Wales is to receive £11.5 million from the European Regional Development Fund to establish industriai premises, support small businesses and develop community enterprises.

Among the 71 projects to benefit are a technology centre in Cardiff Bay and economic regeneration and job creation programmes in Pembrokeshire.

Tritast buys

Trifast, the UK industrial fastenings group, has expanded its operations in Singapore with the £1.96 million acquisition of Formac Technologies, a manufacturer of stainless steel screws. In the 15 months to the end of December 1995 the business earned pre-tax profits of



inquiry Senator Pierre Horsfall, Jersey's limited liability

Eurocamp profits were flat as bookings fell 25 per cent for Robert Baddeley, finance director, left, and Richard Atkinson

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

tween electricity suppliers not work. A number of comand the distribution com-panies, privately and publicly, panies. Distribution, and at have challenged the way com-

Eurocamp held back by sterling

A DECLINE in the popularity of France as a camping destination held back profits at Eurocamp, the holiday company, which yesterday blamed the wealness of the pound in 1995 for its flat results last year (Fraser Nel-

The company, which generates three quarters of its business from British campers in France, said bookings fell by 25 per cent in the year

Richard Afkinson, chief executive, said France suffered in 1995 as customers returned with memories of low purchasing power. He said the recovery of sterling should now restore France's repstation. Eurocamp is now spreading its locations more evenly across Italy and cen-

tral Europe.

Overall, pre-tax profits were flat at £9.27 million (£9.25 million). A final dividend of 7.25p, due to be paid on April

customers. Earlier this week,

Jacobs announced that Dart

would launch a twice daily

service from Dartford to

Zeebrugge in Belgium. The service will be used mainly by

trailer traffic and containers.

the last six months of 1996 was

satisfactory in the transport

and property divisions.

Its shipping division continued to underperform partly
because one of its ferries on

the Dartford to Vlissingen

route was arrested and also

because of competition from

compensation with the previ-

ous charter of the arrested

The acquisitions will leave

Jacobs said that trading in

Australia Bank aims to raise \$862m in US

AUSTRALIA BANK, Australia's biggest bank, is raising up to \$362.5 million via a public offering in America as part of its plans to reorganise its capital base. The bank, which owns Yorkshire Bank, Clydesdale Bank, Northern Bank and National Irish Bank, said the fund raising would provide flexibility to manage its capital, improve access to international capital markets and broaden its investor base.

The issue, which exceeds the \$750 million target previously indicated by the bank, will be carried out in conjunction with its UK and Jersey Capital Securities subsidiaries and will be matched by a A\$1 billion (about £500 million) share buyback later this year. NAB is seeking to expand through acquisition both in Britain and America and has indicated that it would he prepared to spend up to A\$2 billion on the right acquisition. Last year it acquired Michigan National for

MS warns on profits

MS INTERNATIONAL, the specialist engineering com-pany, yesterday gave warning of difficult trading in the second half, exacerbated by the strength of the pound against other European currencies, and that profits were unlikely to meet expectations. The company also announced the sale of MSI-Preconomy, which designs and manufactures steel moulds for the plastic and die-casting industries, for £1.5 million. MSI shares fell 4p to 20p.

Scott bid terms move

THE future of Scott Pickford, the UK geophysical consultancy. is in the balance again after Core Laboratories of the US said it would drop the conditions attached to its 59p a share cash offer. Core said it would extend the offer to all shares, including those to be issued under a share exchange agreed by Scott Pickford with Aerodata, an Australian geoscience consultancy that has offered 55p a share for the company. Aerodata is likely to decide whether to raise its bid tomorrow.

Nightfreight shares fall

SHARES of Nightfreight fell 155 p to 58p yesterday after the parcels delivery and contract distribution company said it was holding the final dividend unchanged at 2.25p a share in spite of lifting pre-tax profits to £5.0l million from £4.62 million in the year to November 30. The company said an 11.5 per cent rise in volumes for parcels in the first two months of the current year was below budget due to poor weather and the recent downturn in manufacturing output.

Millennium sell-off

MILLENNIUM CHEMICALS, the American chemicals business demerged from Hanson, has raised about £190 million from the sale a number of offshore companies that primarily hold sterling-denominated deposits. The proceeds, which reflect the approximate book value of the companies, will help to reduce existing bank debt. The disposal does not reduce the company's net debt, but reduces the ratio of gross debt to total capitalisation from 65 per cent to 62 per cent.

Gardiner advances

Guidelines needed for

remarkable change

ROBERT

BRUCE

THE Gardiner Group, the wholesale distributor of electronic security systems, lifted pre-tax profits to £4.37 million from £3.52 million in the year to October 31, but said trading conditions in the UK remained difficult and comwhile activities in continental Europe were affected by the strong pound. Earnings rose 2.62p a share from 2p. The total dividend is increased to 0.95p a share from 0.85p with a final

Jacobs Holdings makes £34m agreed bid for Ropner

By SARAH CLINNINGHAM

JACOBS HOLDINGS, the shipping and property group headed by Michael Kingshott, has made a £33.7 million agreed cash and shares bid for

Ronner, a rival. Jacobs also disclosed yesterday that it had bought for £16 million the Dartford International Ferry Terminal (DIFT). which owns the freehold of Thames Europort at Dartford

that Jacobs already operates.

Ropner and Jacobs have

CONTINGENCY plans to

prop up competition in house-hold electricity should power

companies fail to set up

efficient computer networks

have been drafted by Offer,

the industry watchdog.
The move, revealed by Ste-

phen Littlechild, the regula-

tor, to the Trade and Industry

Committee, comes amid concern that competition - been negotiating terms since November when a hostile allshare bid by Jacobs was rejected by Ropner. Jacobs already owns a near 10 per cent stake in Ropner.

The new offer is of three new Jacobs shares and 302.75p in cash for every four Ropner shares. There is a partial cash alternative worth 141.3p a

A placing and open offer of 11.04 million Jacobs shares at

scheduled for April next year

- will be delayed.
Instead of sophisticated

cross trading between com-panies through interconnect-ing computer systems, paper

would not affect final custom-

ers but would function be-

by DIFT of a 69.6 million loan was in talks with potential 84p each will partly fund the from the seller, £600,000 of which will be repaid immedacquisition and provide extra working capital.

Mr Kingshott said that the companies' shipping and property operations had clear areas of overlap, while Ropner's engineering business was likely to need some investment and might be sold. To buy DIFT Jacobs will pay £6.4 million in cash to Blue Circle Industries. It will also guarantee the repayment

present supply, is controlled

by regional electricity

Professor Littlechild said

the contingency measures

enable households to shop

around for electricity would

iately after completion. The remaining 69 million will be repaid within five years. Jacobs is already the opera-tor of DIFT's Thames Europort and runs a ferry

service to and from Vlissingen in The Netherlands through Dart Line. Europort is underused at

present, but Jacobs said that it

petition is being developed and the cost of setting up the system to enable 25 million er. Offer could not say how

ing system could support.
Professor Littlechild told—
the committee that the cost could be revised. At present be has calculated it at £210

many customers a paper-trad-

Offer acts to protect competition Eurolink, a ferry service operated by a Mersey Docks and Harbour subsidiary. However, revenue from Dart Line has risen in the first few weeks of 1997 after the closure of Eurolink in December and the settlement of

Jacobs with £53 million of net assets and £40 million of debt.

firm produced its first, and unaudited, report

and accounts, they carried the legend "leader-

ship in client service" on the front. This year, in what seems to be another effort at shaking out

some random alphabet soup from management

some random alphabet soup from management textbooks, they carry the words "working together, delivering value". It may be that the sound of gentle snoring is what the firm wants to stimulate. The problem is that the report is not to shareholders at all.

This is the first time that an accountancy firm

has ever produced a fully audited report and accounts. And the proud team from Grant

Thornton address their report to the partners of KPMG UK. But the partners know roughly,

if not in detail, what to expect beforehand. It

The other users of the report are clients, the-

makes for a certain emptiness of purpose.

press, and partners wives,

husbands and mothers. And not many of any of those groups are going to be that interested in the sort of what

we did for the Halifax Build-

ing Society case studies the

report goes in for. The apeing

of mainstream corporate re-ports rather misses the point.

Companies put that sort of stuff in as flannel for analysts

and investors. Accountancy

firms are not talking to either.

The press would probably rather have some details of the

current vintage from the vine-yard of Colin Sharman, senior

partner. And clients would

Tax threat for joint ventures

David Cruickshank calls for a

rethink on a tax rule that may

threaten commercial investment

ast May's decision by the Court of Appeal in the case of Steele v EVC International will have a severe effect on the earnings of joint ventures, and swift action is required to prevent further damage.

Where two or more companies set up a joint venture they do not usually want to be in partnership. Instead, they form a company and own the shares between them. This is a consortium for tax purposes. so that when the company makes a loss, the loss can be relieved against the profits of the companies that own it. Rather, that was the pos ition until it was undermined by Steele v EVC International.

Although not directly concerned with consortium relief. the court held that a shareholder's agreement providing for the constitution and control of a jointly owned company caused the shareholders to be connected with one another. This would equally apply to consortiums where owners had agreed how to implement a policy for the company.

The background to this decision is that, for decades, an anti-avoidance provision has

been lurking in the tax legislation. This is to the effect that two or more parties who act together to secure or exercise control of the company are treated as being connected. The case confirmed this prin-ciple and brought it into the

open. One of the consequences is that if the owners of a consortium are connected because of this rule, consortium relief is denied. This would catch most joint ven-tures because, typically, the owners will not be making a hands-off investment but setting up a commercial operation that they will want to keep within their control. To do this they need a mechanism for agreeing policy between them-selves. This means they will be acting together to exercise control, so they will be connected.

Why, it might be asked, have any businesses set up joint ventures if there is this big problem? The answer is that, until recently, the anti-avoidance provision has been subject to a sort of truce. The Inland Revenue no doubt realised that it would potentially harm many commercial arrangements, so it tacitly disregarded it unless tax avoidance has



David Cruickshank wants the Revenue to lobby the Treasury

examine this truce. Concerned that consortium relief would be denied for joint ventures, my firm and others asked the Revenue to confirm that it would not apply the court's decision to these arrange-

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The court decision has ments. In its Tax Bulletin of prompted the Revenue to re- December 1996, the Revenue replied that it would indeed apply the decision to consortiums. The Revenue said that, just two owning companies or there is a shareholder's agreement governing the policy of

But what should be done? Although the Revenue has some discretion as to how to operate tax law, it is perhaps unrealistic to expect the Revenue to ignore an anti-avoidance provision when a court has expressly determined that it does apply. What is missing from the Tax Bulletin statement however, is any sugges-tion that the result is unfortunate and an attempt will be made to put it right.

Tax advisers are contacting their clients to see if they are caught by the ruling, if they are, it will prove very difficult to change their arrangements so that they fall outside of it. It is wrong, however, that commercial arrangements should be made to conform with tax law. Rather, anti-avoidance provisions should be targeted to catch avoidance without putting commercial arrangements in a straitjacket. What is needed is a change of law.

Fornmately, the timing for change is good because we are in the Finance Bill season. With strong lobbying it is to be hoped that the Government will be persuaded to table an amendment to the Bill to ensure that commercial joint ventures are not penalised by the decision. Perhaps the Revenue will join in the lobbying.

David Cruickshank is Head of London Tax at Deloitte &

probably want rather more on what accountants are up to and why they are useful. Many finance directors are the institute's council at its known to have somewhat sceptical views on meeting yesterday was one proposal which should strike this. The report would be a good place to air

The figurework is good and solid. A poor first quarter responded to Mr Sharman putting a nocket up a number of departments, and the final figures show a 6 per cent increase in gross fees, but a 12 per cent increase in earnings. The average partner's earnings were £206,000, beating Ernst & Young, whose recent figures showed partners on an average of £200,000.

The other advantage of reporting now is that you can slip in the ligures for the first quarter of the new year. And those are much more dramatic. Admittedly they are being contrasted with what the first saw as a poor first quarter last year, but an overall increase in earned income of 15 per cent sounds more than satisfactory with both management consultancy and transactions services growing at more

IT IS a good thing that accountancy firms do not have outside shareholders and a share price to sustain. To judge by the second year of "full" accounts from KPMG, they would be hard put to fire up their followers. Last year, when the than 30 per cent. It means boom time for accountants again and, therefore, acute shortages of good staff. No wonder Mike Rake, KPMG's chief operating officer, was talking of an average of 75 people a week joining the London office alone.

But in the end, the real interest in these ground-breaking accounts is the fact that they are the first to be audited by an outside firm. Grant Thornton, the largest of the second-tier firms, did the work, and David Spence, who will be the Scots ICA president next year, headed the team.

As you might expect, he said that KPMG was the most informed client I have ever dealt with". And on a personal note he said that he had gained a fascinating insight into another firm. The problem of course is how far he is able to go back to Grant Thornton and suggest that he has just seen a far more efficient or different

way of running a particular discipline or department. Elaborate Chinese walls are in place. But in the end it is going to be very valuable for a firm of Grant Thornton's size

to be dealing with and advising a firm of the size and ambition of KPMG. The other point is how the whole process can be taken forward. Both KPMG and Enrst & Young have found how easily what once seemed to be the insurmountable

problem of disclosure has become a simple and almost humdrum routine. It cannot really be long before all the other major players in the accounting market follow suit. Indeed; anyone not putting

out an annual report and

figures will not only appear archaic but is also going to find a certain amount of client pressure growing to do so. For this some new rules need to be created.

The accounting policies in KPMG's figures show that when it came to the profit-and-loss account and the treatment of taxation, both the firm and its auditors were making their own judgments on the proper way to present partnership figures. But if other non-corporate firms are to follow this route, then some broad guidelines are required. Hence the discussions with both institutes of chartered accountants and the Accounting Standards Board in the hope that a statement of recommended practice can be promulgated. To those with long memories, such an idea seems remarkable.

Dame's date with the millennium

AT LAST the Dame has done it. The English ICA will have its first woman president at the helm as it sees in the millennium. At yesterday's council meeting it was announced that the fearsome Sheila Masters of KPMG had trounced Graham Ward of Price Waterhouse in the election for vice-president by 54

votes to 31. But even before the vote was announced Dame Sheila's ar- WITH auditors auditing aurival in the same purple and ditors, anything could hap-

pen. This week saw the publi-

the KPMG annual report gave the game away. Apprehensive secretariat trembling at the promised Masters revolution were munering some lines from Byron under their breath. The Assyrian came down like a wolf on the fald, and his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold."

Novel approach

eation of the first set of auditor's accounts ever to be audited by another auditor. Neither of them fell asleep in the process. But both KPMG and Grant Thornton have had to be very careful to ensure such things as client confidentiality and not giving away each other's secrets. And in particular they have had to draw up a code that outlaws any conflicts of interest over insolvencies. "After all," said

ing each other over the work that they had done." If only everyone else stuck to such a

our informant, "we couldn't

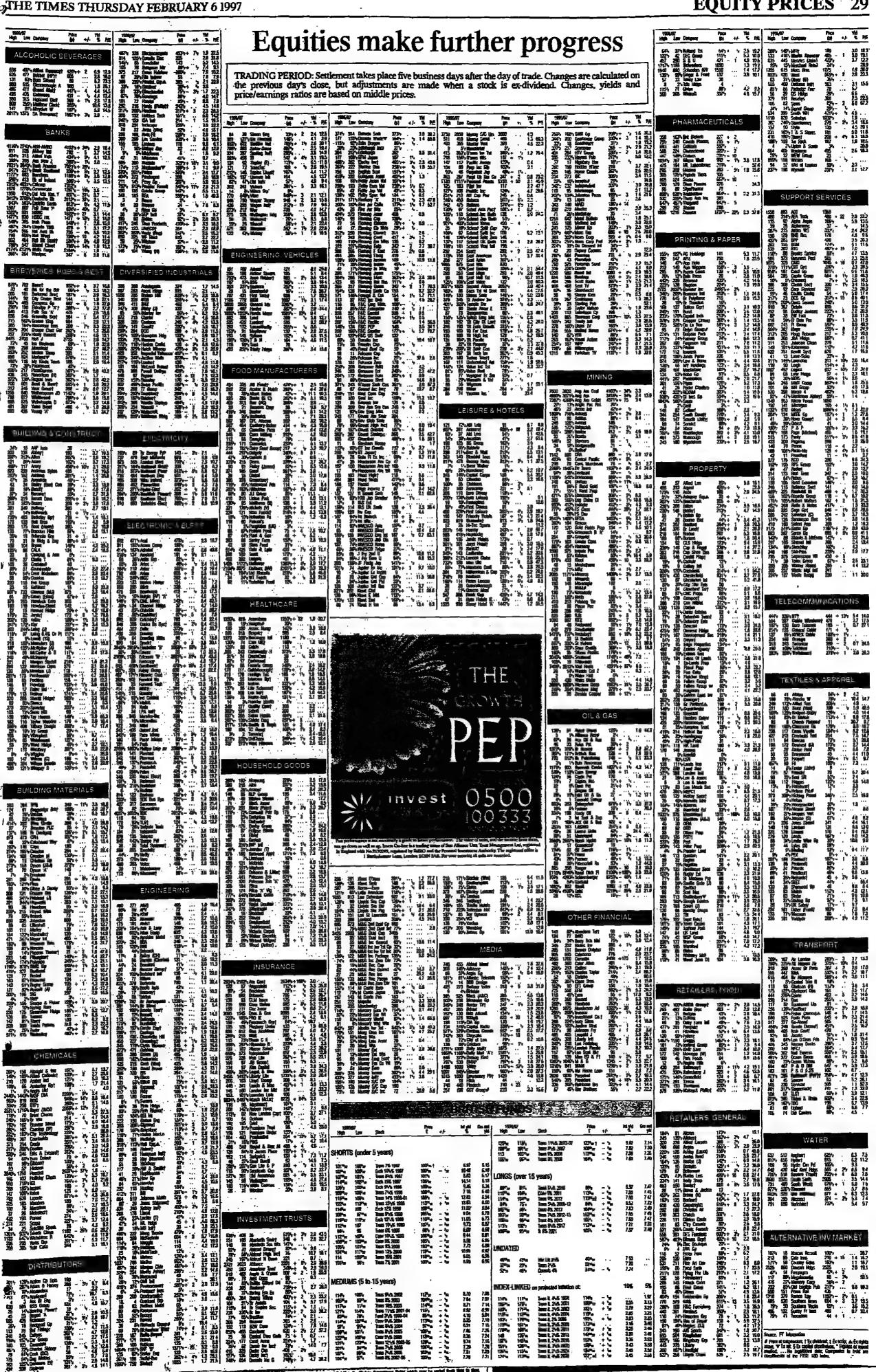
have clients and auditors su-

Media offensive IF THE English ICA's latest plans are put into action, we can expect some grisly sights on our televisions ere long. Buried deep in the "annual report of the chairman, communications" presented to

terror into the hearts of viewers and send listeners back to sleep at breakfast time. Talking of success in getting insti-tute folk on to television and radio, the report says: "There are a number of opportunities coming up where we hope that persistence will pay off." Then comes the bombshell. "Our target is regular slots for an institute spokesperson on the Today programme and a panellist on Question Time. Don't say you haven't been

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THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 1997 David Honour introduces a special report on business continuity: making sure your company survives a catastrophe

FŒUS

You can be the master of potential disaster

hen the staff of a City finance house go to work, downloading the day's data to a remote vault for safety. Should the office be damaged by bomb, fire or flood, the employees will simply decamp to a back-up office, or "hot site", probably a building on the fringe of the City that is proving difficult to let for any

other purpose.

There it will be business as usual. The finance house will be reaping the reward for paying perhaps £5,000 a year for each module desk, PC, telephone line and financial service (Reuters or Telerate) -

Such companies are usually aware of the need to keep their business going without a break. Small and medium-sized businesses may not have given it much thought. But it is in their interests to

There are perhaps 40 British companies offering business continuity consultancy and services. The bigger players include Granada Business Continuity, Comdisco, CAP-RS, Team Recovery (a division of ICM), Guardian, SafetyNet, BT Commsure, Wang and Adam Associates. All have seen rapid sales growth over the past two years.

In its infancy, business continuity planning was called disaster recovery. But the word "disaster" conjures images of fire, flood and terrorism. In real life, these are

rare. To a business, less dramatic but more frequent problems are computer and telecommunications failures, theft, employee sabotage and straightforward human re-source problems such as death and

The first step in the planning process is to assess the risks faced by the company. How exposed is it? Which risks threaten critical

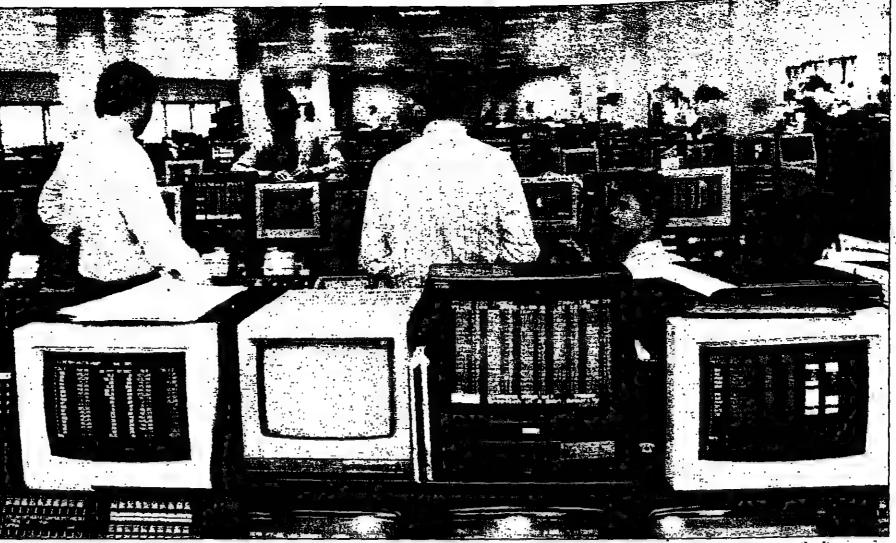
The next step is to decide what measures can be put in place to prevent risks becoming reality, and to minimise commercial damage if disaster does occur.

At this stage the elements of the plan can be compiled into a document - the business continuity plan - which must be tested. This is best done by staging a mock disaster, an event which will be made more useful if it is not known to be a simulation. In this way the plan can be tested for weaknesses.

Once the plan is finalised, the temptation is to allow it to gather dust, but plans must be regularly reviewed. Possible redundancy of parts of the plan must also be Much of a business continuity

plan will probably relate to a company's IT and telecommunications networks. As the complexities of these networks increase, so do the risks faced. Recent developments include new threats posed by the Internet expansion, the Y2K (Year 2000 threat) and EMU.

The recent massive growth of the



Computer-based dealing rooms are vulnerable, but clever managers have back-up systems in place in alternative locations to guarantee continuity

Internet has created many IT security problems for online com-Protecting Internal networks from unauthorised access and ensuring confidentiality of electronic transactions are a challenge. Authorisation, encryption, firewalls and internet tunnels are all solutions which need to be considered. Internet-propagated computer viruses are another

Many companies have only recently become aware of the problems that two-digit computer dates could cause as the millennium approaches. Some pundits forecast

a minor hiccup: others are predicting apocalypse. As in most things, the truth lies somewhere in the middle. Most of the larger business continuity and disaster recovery providers offer Y2K testing facilities, where systems can be duplicated and run prematurely through the year 2000 date. Unfortunately it is easier, quicker and much less costly to find problem code than to re-write it.

European Monetary Union is another potential challenge to business continuity planners. To pre-pare for EMU, banks and financial institutions will have to redevelop

parts of their IT software structure. Evidence presented to the House of Lords by the British Banking Association and the Association for Payment Clearing Services put the implementation costs for British banks at £914 million at 1994 prices. Retailers will also face difficulties

as banking systems would need to cope with a dual currency in the case of a phased implementation or alternatively an overnight change.

Many consultants offer business

continuity advice help. Extreme caution is required when selecting one. Customer references should be sought and always followed up.

The only recognised qualification is provided by the Business Continuity Institute, incorporated in 1994, members of which have been scrutinised through a formal application and interview procedure. Members use the initials MBCI or FBCI (Member/Fellow of the Busi-

ness Continuity Institute).

John Marsh, the institute's general manager, is a former naval. commander who has seen his share of disasters at sea. "Any small business with IT that doesn't download every night is running into danger," he says.

At higher levels, Mr Marsh

concedes, it can be expensive. Some consultants charge up to £800 a day to write a business plan, which might cost from £10,000. "But then it's very expensive for a big company to tie up perhaps 50 computers in an unused office. It's much cheaper to pay a specialist company to do it.

"Insurance is only good for so much. Of the 250 companies in the World Trade Centre, New York, at the time of the bomb, only about 100 are still going."

The author is Editor, Business Continuity magazine. The Business Continuity institute: 0181 874 1931



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Will your firm be ready for action?

companies. Mick Williams. director at CAP-RS, which has seven business continuation sites around Britain, says that although bombs and hurricanes capture the headlines, 90 per cent of disasters are "quiet catastrophes" such as leaks and fires.

"They can be potentially embarrassing to a company's image, so most keep quiet about it. It's a competitive world out there, and having a break in your operations or admitting to being out of action, can cost customers."

John Woodcock, technical

director at Sedgwick Risk Con-sulting, says: "Most businesses are over-optimistic about customers' tolerance of interruption. Customers are usually much more demanding and expect much quicker recovery than many businesses plan for. Businesses should perhaps reassess their attitudes to customer expectations."

However, just investing in a disaster recovery package is not enough. Key personnel need to know their roles in putting a continuation programme into action and all staff need to know what is expected of them so they can pull together from the start. Mr Woodcock says that "action" is the key word in

companies have contingency plans that are too theoretical and lack clearly defined re-sponsibility. "Many plans seem to be a form of intellectual guidance, rather than action-oriented. The purpose of a plan is to identify what people must do, when they must do it and with whom they must communicate. There should be no ambiguity."

The most successful disaster

recovery plans are centred around actions including: establishing top management commitment. analysing threats to business, determining resources required for recovery and establishing a list of internal and external contacts. Mr. Woodcock says that recovery plans often overlook the possibility of outsourcing work to third parties, who may in normal circumstances be competitors.

The Disaster Manager software package, marketed by Sedgwick, helps contingency plans to swing into action the moment disaster strikes. Kerry Parkes, a risk consultant. says: "Disaster Management helps to control the panic factor of a disaster. It ensures that procedures most commonly forgotten, such as recording expenses and temporary redirection of mail, are all addressed. It gives the confidence to look at the most Susan Gray

how to form a recovery plan

and insure against a crisis

important question of all how quickly would your customers expect you to be back in ment is priced at £2,900 for a single-site, single-user

Even the most sophisticated IT systems are useless to a basiness without people to run them. Yet only 5 per cent of British companies have insurance to compensate against the loss of key personnel. While taking part in the Virgin Global Challenger, Richard Branson was insured for a £30 million payout in the event of

Talented leaders are the engines of companies, and smaller companies usually

of a key individual", Tony

Colla, managing director of Sedgwick Risk Benefits, says gathers tips on An objective consultant should be able to highlight risks, and the client can see if its insurance policy is appropriate.

NatWest Business Insur-

ance Service says that small businesses need to heighten their awareness of business interruption insurance across the board. "One of the most common types of cover overlooked is insurance for the financial dent arising from either a natural disaster, an accident or an act of terrorism," a spokesman says.

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ndy Dickson, marketing manager at IBM Business Recovery Services, says: "Business recovery is no longer about providing desks and chairs and PCs, but about talking to business people and protecting the whole operation."

Mr Dickson says that a good consultant gets under the skin of the client business, "not just looking at the visible hardware, but making the whole thing work". -

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Just 48 hours to business recovery

Tony Dawe reports on how severe bomb damage failed to shut down

Bishopsgate and Manchester's centre

he scars remain deep from the two biggest bombs to hit mainland Britain since the Second World War. Some buildings are still boarded and unrepaired nearly four years after the IRA struck in Bishopsgate, London, and in Manchester damaged stores and offices are still being demol-ished after last June's bomb in

the Arndale Centre. Yet businesses brought to a shattering halt in the two cities were able to start up again within 48 hours because of their links with disaster recovery specialists. For dozens of companies, the terrorist de-vices proved the importance of planning for the worst-case scenario and provided lessons on how to minimise the impact of future disasters.

Longridge House, British Engine insurance's headquar-ters, was the office block to suffer most severely in Manchester. Staff making telephone sales that Saturday morning sustained the worst injuries in the city, and damage to the building, standing feet from where the bomb exploded, was matched only by the damage to its computer systems. British Engine was, however, able to call on the services of Comdisco, an international disaster recovery provider. Comdisco operates a computer mainframe recovery

London and emergency offices at Warrington in Lancashire. Angus Jordan, a member of British Engine's crisis management team, said: "Our first concern was for those mem-

bers of staff injured in the blast. Secondly, we wanted to minimise any further stress and disruption by relocating people as quickly as possible. Julia Graham, an executive with Royal Insurance, British

Engine's parent company, added: We found that moving to another office en masse was an excellent morale booster for staff because it allowed them to remain with colleagues in a British Engine's disaster plan allowed for a 48-hour

period to relocate key staff before any mainframe activity was required, so the Corndisco experts knew, when they were called in on the Sunday morning after the bomb, that they had until the Tuesday to prepare the Isleworth mainframe and the communications links to Warrington.

British Engine has about 350 home-based engineers who access the mainframe remotely to download their work schedules. Pre-planning and good communication ensured that everyone was informed when the mainframe system would be available again. Though there was a break in work schedules,



Offices wrecked, computer systems damaged: after the Bishopsgate bombing in 1993

the restart was performed on the Tuesday. British Engine was able to install a new mainframe in another of its offices by early July and move staff out of Warrington by

A smaller business to suffer

was the Curry House in Back Turner Street. The restaurant was undamaged but had no customers because of safety cordons in the area.

Mohammed Iqbal, the owner, knew nothing of disaster recovery plans but had taken

insurance policy with Nat-West, which covers even loss of profits caused by terrorist activites. Mr Iqbal said: "You could not believe how relieved I was when I received a call from NatWest saying I could claim for loss of business."

gate in the City, the Banco di Sicilia was one of many finance houses facing shutdown. The explosion tore through its offices and dealing room on the 13th floor of the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank building, which took the brunt of the blast, dislodging computers and shattering dealing screens. Branch managers had, however, drawn up a comprehensive emergency pian that included access to replica dealing rooms set up by Safetynet, specialists in contingency planning and re-covery services, and Reuters. The temporary dealing sys-tem was linked to one of Safe-

tyner's back-up sites in West London, so the bank's emergency box containing back-up computer tapes, stationery and useful phone numbers was brought from a secure site outside the City.

By Monday morning, both the information technology back-up system and the temp-orary dealing room were op-erating as normal. Other staff were settled in temporary offices, and the bank was able

to offer a full range of services.

After helping six companies through the Bishopsgate bomb aftermath, Satetyner drew up a list of 20 key lessons, including the need for off-size storage of comprehen-sive back-up data, an accessible emergency control centre with key suppliers to maintain support in an emergency. They concluded that many contingency plans were un-tested, insufficiently detailed and out of date.

When power and paper fail to work

Susan Gray on how a coping strategy can save cashflow

Businesses need to be prepared for mundane disasters, as well as for the dramatic ones. How would a business operate if the mailroom was wiped out by flu? Or if there was a power cut? How would the company function if the archive basement floods, or papers giant break. were strewn all over the

street - as happened in the Baltic Exchange bombing? Ashley Shepherd, director of DSI Business Support based in Slough, Berkshire, says that companies understimate the importance of a fully functioning mailroom. Typically, a utility mails 100,000 to 150,000 bills a day. If they don't arrive on the customer's doormat, cashflow quickly dries up"

he says.
Direct telephone insurance companies rely on getting a quote to a new customer within 24 hours, or the business could go to a competitor. Companies using DSI Business Support's mailroom back-up service, mainly from the utility and financial sectors, pay an annual fee together with a daily rate for use of the facilities. Clients can bus their own staff to Slough or use DSI employees.

Even a break in power supply lasting minutes can seriously damage a business. According to Liebert Europe, one to three hours of electrical power supply is lost every year, with 30 separate incidents of five minutes loss causing far more damage than one

Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) from Liebert Europe offers varying levels of power protection to com-puter networks, depending on how business critical they are. To determine critilook not only at the network. and whether downtime would paralyse operations, but also on the domino effect a power supply would have on hubs and other networks.

Paper can be the poor relation to computer networks in business recovery planning. Yet, according to Michael Muller, managing director of Bell & Howell: "The public and private sectors produce around five billion A4 sheets a year, of which only 2-3 per cent may originate from the computer system." Bell & Howell's answer is to back up paper records on microfilm and

Tony Dawe on the support available when a problem affects information systems

RICHARD PURSEY, managing director of Adam Asso-ciates, is fond of telling the story of the disgruntled em-ployee who set off the office sprinkler system while serving out her notice. As staff fled the deluge, most forgot to switch off their computers.

The water damage to fixtures and fittings proved to be minor but the computer net-work, many desktop ma-chines and printers were damaged beyond repair. "The company didn't have a

our firm be

for action!

disaster recovery plan be-cause the management had failed to realise the company's dependence on computers,".

"The result was months of chaos and lost business and the company still hasn't fully ...

The instant office insures against computer crises

Mr Pursey does, of course, have a motive for recalling this sorry tale. His company offers an insurance-style policy that allows firms to keep going after suffering serious computer problems.

. With computer downtime costing British industry more than il billion a year, scores of firms now offer rescue services ranging from replac-ing damaged hardware to providing a replacement of-fice on wheels.

near Newbury, Berkshire, can install personal computers, printers and complete networks in as little as four hours, 24 hours a day, to rescue a company not just from drowning but from breakdowns, thefts and other

This year British industry will buy about three million PCs, yet under 5 per cent of firms have a contingency plan. The lack of a plan can be a fatal oversight as 80 per

cent of companies suffering a major disaster go out of business within a year," adds

Mr Pursey.
Guardian Computer Services can offer space in recovery centres in six locations. Its newest centre in Islington, London, provides a office for up to 300 displaced staff with telephones and faxes.

The centre's equipment includes 200 PCs with six recovery suites which can operate at self-contained units accommodating teams of between ten and 100 people. Security facilities include

closed circuit television and uninterruptible power supply (UPS) with generator back-ups, Roland Mann, a Guardian director, says: "When a disaster strikes, it is important for companies to have access to a safe, secure workplace where their IT systems can be replicated quickly."

Hewlett Packard provides

three levels of business protection. The back-up service is designed for customers who need emergency help within hours of a computer disaster; the stand-by service rescues customers whose hardware has failed because of a disaster, while the full-scale mobile service will bring a ter room configured to the

lients' needs to their door. Computer Stand-By will also turn up with a 40st mobile trailer containing a replacement office with terminals and telephone systems. The trailer is equipped with the system in transit and a

enerator providing UPS.

The Leicester-based company also provides data storage services and anti-theft devices and serves a quarter of the UK's top 100 comthan 130 disasters ranging from minor hardware failures

Stafford-Miller, the toothpaste and healthcare products manufacturer, is one fo the Nicol, the group IT manager, says: "IT is now part of the lifeblood of our products. As every aspect of our business is reliant on such technology, we impact of losing all or part of



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Child and geese find fulfilment in the lyrical

family movie, Fly Away Home



Barbed wit and cruel deeds in the Versailles court: Ridicule is no sleepy . • costume drama



FILM 3 Jeanne Moreau only partly redeems Ismail Merchant's ponderous The

Proprietor



FILM 4 Classic Forties newspaper comedy, crackling with

quickfire wit,

His Girl Friday

returns with

Take flight to where it's warmer

CINEMA: Geoff Brown sees Anna Paquin and

a cute gaggle of Canada geese Fly Away Home

The recipe is simple. You take one lonely child of divorced, preoccupied or otherwise dysfunctional parents. You introduce the child to an extraterrestrial, or a fetching creature of land, air or sea. You cook over a low heat for 90 or so minutes. Result the child achieves emotional fulfilment, and the film-makers

achieve a family movie. The outcome is not always nourishing. For every E.T. there are family entertainments so unimaginative that audiences might cry in despair had the films not put them to sleep. But Fly Away Home is not of that ilk. It stars a flock of Canada geese, who grab the attention whether tottering blithely over the breakfast table or soaring through the air in majestic formation.

The film also stars Anna Paquin, the piquant New Zealander, now 14, who won an Oscar for her role in The Piano. Her eyes are her best expressive weapon, and Fly Away Home gives her much to stare at. There is the eccentric behaviour of her estranged father, Jeff Daniels, who scoops her up in the opening scene from the trauma of her mother's death, and gives her a new start in rural Canada. And there are the geese, first seen as eggs left abandoned after an incursion by developers' bulldozers; and incubated

in a chest of drawers. For a while, Carroll Ballard's film, is content to watch the child's maternal instincts waken as the furry cute (but never too cute), and fall into a lavatory bowl. Then some plot machinery is wheeled on. The local wildlife officer insists on clipping the ese's wings. Daniels and Paquin want them to follow nature's call and migrate south. But, orphaned at birth, they cannot fly, until a motorised hang-glider shaped ike a goose and piloted by Paquin shows them the way.

Once the cast become air-borne, the plot fades and spectacle takes over. Ballard, director of The Black Stallion and Never Cry Wolf, loves a lyrical image, and his gifted cameraman, Caleb Deschanel, effortlessly wrests them from the gessels flight over lake bill and dale lake, hill and dale.

Not every sequence looks genuine: when the gress steer a path through Baltimore skyscrapers shrouded in log one suspects computer jiggery-pokery. But Paquin's attach-ment to the birds is real enough, and the film's strong emotional core, its innocence and sense of optimism, easily offset the two main draw-backs: insufficient drama and an over-generous length.

From geese to frocks, wigs, beauty spots, breeches, brocade, early morning ducks and fluttering lace handkerchiefs: the usual roll call of the costume drama. Patrice Leconte's Ridicule adds another

Burden

Odeon West End

15, 88 mins

Fly Away Home Warner West End U, 107 mins Endearing saga about orphaned geese Ridicule Curzon West End 15, 102 mins ... Diverting times at Louis XVI's court White Man's

Simplistic drama with relishes the characters' loquac-The Proprietor down in words. There is Warner West End always space to appreciate some absurd visual detail: a 12, 113 mins. Jeanne Moreau fails to wincing face, a caressing foot under a table, or the sight of give the kiss of life the King (puff pastry adorned His Girl Friday with a blue sash) peeping Curzon Phoenix through a painting at the U, 92 mins morning's supplicants. Of the Hard, fast comedy, cast, only Godreche appears vintage 1940 out of synch with her sur-

and rarer ingredient: wit, Characters need this to sur-vive in Louis XVI's court, where a well-aimed remark can make or break a man's reputation. So the language flows, all in French with excellent subtitles, as Farmy Ardant, Jean Rochefort and lesser-known but excellent players make merry with jokes; barbs and games of

At first sight costumed flum-mery might not seem to be Leconte's tasse de the, But the director of Monsieur Hire and The Hairdresser's Husband appreciates the cruelty of aristocratic behaviour, and the sad concern for appearances. Right from the start, when a Chevalier urinates on an infirm Comte, we know this is no museum of a film. The period dressing never appears finicky or overwhelming: characters live through their words, not their clothes.

Our representative in the world of Versailles is stage deeds, with zest and precision. actor Charles Berling cast as Ponceludon de Malavoy, a provincial squire who comes to enlist the King's support for a water drainage plan. Gazing distastefully with an outsider's White Man's Burden was the first film John Travolta made after Pulp Fiction reactivated his career in 1994, although no one has been in too much of a hurry to bring it to British attention. He sports eyes, he soon needs Rochefort's advice and protection. Avoid puns, he is told. Never ginger hair. He's an ordinary, ill-educated Joe, and works in laugh with your mouth open. a factory, at least until a stray glance at the boss's naked wife leads to his dismissal. Misforand never laugh at your own jakes. So the outsider moves in, displaying a ready tongue, and an eye for ladies such as Ardant (mature and connivtunes then shower upon him: unemployment, harassment, eviction. Travolta's dim soling) and Judith Godreche ution is to kidnap his boss and extort \$3,000. This brings (pure and buxom).

Rémi Waterhouse's script Yawning already, I see. there's a trick to this plot. In this America, circumstances been turned upside have down. The blacks have the money and the power; the whites are the underdogs. Travolta's kidnap victim is Harry Belajonte, who lives like a king among manicured lawns; Travolta's place is with the white trash, living in a squalor that reminds us that Desmond Nakano, the writer roundings: the rest toss their and director, also wrote the

movie of Last Exit to Brooklyn. The novelty initially provokes and amuses. Nakano, directing for the first time, paints his reverse picture so broadly that its resonance fades as the plot plods on. Both Travolta and Belafonte give solid performances; not solid enough, though, to realise the

The Proprietor begins with the spectacle of Jeanne Mo-reau smartly attired in the colours of the French flag. Red scarf. White coat. Blue dress. She deserves no less. The film she stars in is far less appropriate; for all her authority and grace, she cannot give life to a fey and awkward script, or impart agility to her director Ismail Merchant, better

words, their cruel and pathetic known and better skilled as the production half of Merchant Ivory.

A strong emotional core, innocence and sense of optimism - plus Anna Paquin and assorted goslings - make Fly Away Home something to cherish

Moreau plays a famous French writer, whose bestknown book. Je m'appelle France, became a new-wave cinema classic. Long in America, she returns to her homeland to reclaim the apartment she lived in as a child.

long the way, memories surface of the French Occupation; Ldiatribes launched against Hollywood crassness, and, Moreau apart, an ill-assorted English and American cast acts in ugly capital letters. Cultural displacement has long been a Merchant Ivory theme, but practice in this case has not made perfect. The film tries hard to be suave, but is condemned to be gauche, dull,

perplexingly bad. Life returns with His Girl Friday, the sparky Howard Hawks comedy of 1940, based on Hecht and MacArthur's stage classic about journalists' shenanigans, The Front Page. Does this have more words minute than any other per minute man any our film? It seems so, at least; and, unlike the players in modern pastiches such as The

Hudsucker Proxy, the cast inxuriates in the furious pace. Cary Grant takes the role of the ruthless managing editor, eager to exploit a murder story; in a gender switch from the original play, Rosalind Russell is the star reporter who needs to be wooed back to the fold. There is no time in the stampede of jokes for the milk of human kindness, least of all from Rosalind Russell, a performer always wrapped in ice. But the film's ruthlessness is bracing, especially when so many recent comedies chase themselves silly getting

"Sparkling Entertainment" (f)ry, witty dialogue and piles of intrigue at the Court of Versailles" Blegant, engaging and moving; an exquisite indictment of a social world." From the director of MONSIEUR HIRE and THE HAIRDRESSER'S HUSBAND

Ridicule

The perfect crime.

CRANCES SERLING ARMADIGUESTO- PEDITE!

'Fluffy side of life'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases ...

☐ FLY AWAY HOME Toby White, 22: Slow, jumpy start leads towards lump inthroat happy finale. Charming, but you have to be in the right mood to enjoy it. Nathan Jessup, 19: Sentimental claptrap. Performances are

good, if contrived. Jeni Reed, 21: A tale of preadolescent trauma, with a touch of green activism. It's cute, it's cuddly — a glimpse of the fluffier side of life. Nicki Thomas, 21: Predictable and unimaginative, but it

somehow manages entertain.

☐ THE PROPRIETOR Toby: Be prepared to shuffle in your seat. Some poignant moments failed to retain my attention in this dull, often trite, tale of self-rediscovery. Nathan: Too many characters; too thin on plot. Ismail

too much. Jeni: Watching paint dry would be more entertaining. The beams in this film aren't the only wooden objects.

Nicki: Boring. Save yourself some money and go to a letting agency and ask if you can view some properties: it takes half the time and is much more exciting.

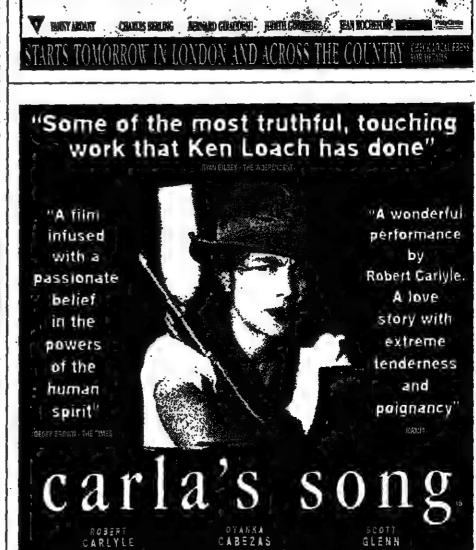
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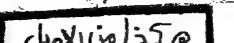
Toby: Engaging. One leaves the cinema feeling uncomfortable, which is how one should

Natham: Considering what this is about, it is played a little too straight. One expects a gritty urban tale, but it isn't. Jeni: Intense and thoughtprovoking but ultimately dull. Still, who cares Travolta's in it?

Nick: Interesting to an extent but the cliched use of racial tension fails to go deep







■ CHOICE I

Frank Dunlop gives Carmen the spectacular treatment

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Albert Hall



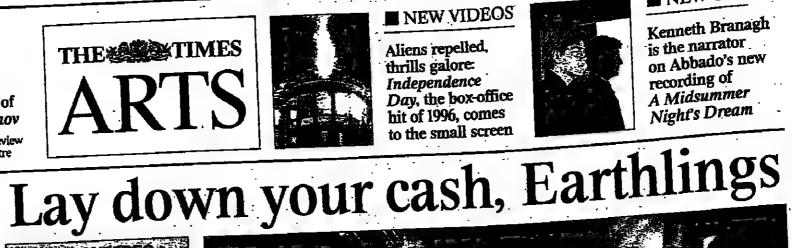
■ CHOICE 2

Ralph Fiennes stars in David Hare's version of Chekhov's Ivanov

VENUE: Now in preview at the Almeida Theatre



هِ كذا من رالامل



■ NEW VIDEOS

Aliens repelled thrills galore Independence Day, the box-office hit of 1996, comes to the small screen



NEW CDS

Kenneth Branagh is the narrator on Abbado's new recording of A Midsummer Night's Dream

LONDON

BACKPAY West End run for Tarramitha Hommerschieg's Brist play, set in South Airca where a white learnager searches our her black nurse and hopelessly inspudges the ensuing stustions. Mary Peate directs East England tour follows Reyal Court Theathe Upstains (Cordel, Ambassadors, West Street, Cordel, Ambassadors, West Street, (Circle), Amicessacios, Previews begin WC2 (0171-565 5000), Previews begin longini, 7pm, Opens Feb 10, 7pm

CARDIFF EAST: Kenneth Crarina CARDET EAST Name of Carden Services, Karl Johnson, Windson Dawes, in the cast of 15 for Peter GRTs new play, set on a Welsh housing estate in the 1990s National (Cottesion), South Berrik, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens Feb 12, 7pm. In rep 7. Suprit. Operar each spirit arrept
CARMEN-Barry Wordsworth conducts
the BSC Concert Orchestra in director
Frank Duniton's flamboyant production
of Boat's fregic table of love, passion and
palously Attendang casts will store the
12 performances, with Yvorne Fordare
and Kalar Uterrar in the title role, and
Justin Lavender and Alan Woodrow at

Justin Lavender and Alen Woodrow a Don José. Sung in English Albert Half, Kerisington Gore. SW7 (0171-59 8212). Opens tonight, 7,30pm. Then Tue-Sun, 7,30pm, malis, Set, 2,30pm, Until February 16. 20 SYANOV: Reiph Fennes heads a splended cast that includes Harriel Walter, Bill Paterson, Oliver Ford Davies, in Jonathen Kent's production of

 ART Albort Finney Tom Courientsy and Ken Stoft in an exceptionally marestring drama about inendship, unspoken resentment and an almost of white carvas, Manney Wood, Wyndham's, Chawng Cross Road, WC2 (0171-359 1736) Tuo-Sat, Spm. mats Wed, Spm, Set and Sun, Spm

THE JEWESS OF TOLEDO: UK ☐ THE JEWESS OF TOLEDO UK previous for Lope de Vega's virtually unishown deems, whose young King Alphonso pursues a love that outrages his court and country Directed by Colin Elwood for Strangers' Callery, a company founded by former and current members of the RSC Bridevell, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, EC4 (0171-395 3456). Previews bogin brogit. 7 30pm. Opens Feb 10. 7 30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; mat Sun texcept Feb 8), 4 30pm. Unit Merch 1.

CI KITCHENSINK: Latest play by Paul Mercier, author of Buddiela, this time covering three decedes of trage; and come endurance in a Dublin suburb. Mercier directs for Pession Machine. Trileyele, 259 Kilburn High Fload, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, Sprir; mat Sat, 4pm. Urdi Merch 1. LAUGHTER ON THE SIRD

L.I. LAUGHTER ON THE SEND FLOOR, Neil Syron's furty account of working erroring a learn of scriptwifters for correction Sid Caesar back in the 1950s, Gene Wilder plays Sid. Directed by Roger Harries.

NEW RELEASES

CAPLA'S SONG (15) A Glassingian bus driver follows his love to Niceragus bus diver labors his political education and recover his political education Uneven but heartfold drama from hen Loach; with Oyanka Cabezas Berbloon (0171-638 8891) Lumiere Barbions (0171-636 8891) Luneers (0171-836 0891) Delooner Kensninglon (0181-315-6214) Switze Cottage (0181-315-6214) Switze Cottage (0181-316-6220) Ribe (0171-234-6877) Pitzy (0171-737-2121) Seroon/Green (0171-372-6335) Higher Fulleton Road (0171-372-6236) Highmarket (0171-839 1827) Warmer (0171-437-4343)

Dashing doctor Hugh Grant sturnious on unethods research in New York, increasingly ter-letched medical timilar, with Clara Unions Administration

ABC Belier Street (0171-935 9772) ABC BANKS STREET (0171-539 9772)
Celeons: Kensington (10181-315 4214)
Warthe Arch (0181-315 4216) Series
Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End
(0181-315 4221) Plaza (5) (0390
888900) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0390

LOCKING FOR RICHARD (12). Al Pacino's intectious and lively film about the appeal of Strolespeare and Richard RI, with Keyn Spacey, Alec Baldwin Odeon Haymarket (0181-315 4212) QUADROPHENIA (15): Energistic posters at 1960s Mode and Rockers.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

Chekhov's first produced play. New version by David Hare. Atmetida, Atmetida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Previews begin torught, 7 30 Opens Feb 19, 7pm. Until April 5.

ELSEWHERE GLASGOW. Andrea Hart plays the title role in Sinndberg's liftes Julia, with Paul Albertson and Neda Strarp Robert David MucDoneid translates and directs Citizenes' (Orde Studio). Gorbals (0141-429 0022) Opens tonight, 7 30pm. Then Tue-Set, 7.30pm.

MANCHESTER: Emil Wolly presiding genus of several productions hate, steers audiences through the ecrobatic mayhern of his fite in Wolle's World. A mayhorn of his fee it was cast of seven bring logether dance, opera, circus and physical theetre. Royal Exchange, Upper Campfield Street (016-833 9833). Previews be lonight, 7 30pm. Opens Feb 11.

Also in Manchester, the regional premiere of Broken Gless, Arthu Miller, a exboarm of the qeuillaton

THEATRE GUIDE House full, returns only Some seats available Seats at all prices

Queen's, Shahesbury Avenue, Wi (0171-494 5040) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. PLINDER: Galf Rhys Jones and Kevin McNally in many, though tertibly encloses, Ben Travers terce, Kevin McNally and Sara Crowe also in the asst, Peter James Geods.

Servey, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888).

Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mais Thurs and Sat, 2,30pm.

SHAKURTULA: httpung tale o at environment und interpretaj sera un tho martiaga of a king and a heavenly nymph, taken from the Mahabharata and dramatised by Peter Caucid, author of Fair Ladies at a Game of Poem Caucide lichte Bulleadersham dissolu Cards Indhu Rubasingham directs. Gate, Perriondge Road, W11 (0171-

229 0706), Proviews begin loright, 7,30pm. Opens Feb 10, 7,30pm The Mon-Set, 7,30pm. Ums Merch B. IN THREE HOURS AFTER

CINEMA GUIDE

sean brown a films in London and (where indicated with the symbol Φ) on release across the country

inspired by The Who's concept album. Directed in 1979 by Franc Roddam; with ABC Stuffenbury Avenue (0171-836 6273) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (2) (090 688390)

CURRENT

Sunder processing learning spread Empire (a) (0990 888990) UCI Whiteleys (a) (0990 888990) Virging Trecadero (a) (0171-434 (0031)

THE PREACHER'S WIFE (U) Antiquated Chrismas whensy in modern packaging; with Derzei Weshington, Whitney Houston and Courtney Vance.

effects of trying to conceal truth. Chris Honer directs the first production since the 1994 opening at the National Theatre. Lithrary, SP Peder's Square (0161-236 7110), Peasews from tonight; 7 30pm. Opens Feb 10, 7,30pm. Then Mon-Thurs 7,30pm. Fin and Set, 8pm.

NORTHAMPTON: Stephen Malatrat's edaptetion of The Women in Black, Susan Mil's gothic novel of revenge from heading the grave. from beyond the grave.

Reyal, Guildhall Road (01604 32633)

Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Frt,
7.30pm; Sei, 5pm and 8.30pm; main

hurs (Feb 13, 20, 27), 2 30pm. LONDON GALLERIES Angela Flowers: Lucy Jones: Terry Frost: Monoprints (0181-985 3333)

Frost: Monoprints (0181-966 3333)
Berbicen: Dreamings — Tufumpa (0171-538 4141) ... Chall: Famir: Present contemporary work by Serah Keevi, Helen Lynch, Judy Pickering (0171-267 3300) ... Dellana: Wim Delvoya (0171-367 6000) ... Goedhelmstitut: Racul Heusmann Photographic Works 1927-1957 (0171-411 3400) ... National Portrait Variation of Theory 150 Visional Portraits Variations. raphic Works 1927-1938
3400) National Portrait: Variations
and Thama: 150 Years of Photograph
of British Composers (0171-908 0055)
Redient: Still Life and Intelle precent Str Life and Interior (0171-734 1732) . Theo Wedding Pine Art. Nicholas Harding: Recent Paintings (0171-494 1584) . Tom Blau The Goddesses: Photographs

comody by Gey. Pope and Arbuthnot, laboured combc effects do not increase the josey but there are farcically furny

M WHEN GOD WANTED A SON By

Arnold Wesker. Jewish professor, gari wife, lafed cornecten daughter. Spence Butter directs what is described as an

Butter directs what is despition as an exploration of languages and cornedy New End, New End, Hempsteed, New (917)-794-0027, Opons lonight, 7 30pm Then Tue-Sat, 7 30pm, meta Sat and Sun, 3.30pm. Until March 9.

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FLIPPER

release and to buy.

CIC, PG, 1996 REMEMBER Flipper, dolphin star of films and television in the 1960s? He has been brought back to frolic in a thunderously unimaginative family film, featuring Elijah Wood as a surly teenager who unbends through exposure to nature's marvels in the islands off Key West. But the only human to make an impact is Paul Hogan as the bohemian uncle whose idea of washing dishes is to swish them around in the shower with his foot. Available to

HEW ON VIDEO

ALIENS in enormous spaceships are threatening to destroy our world. But

American pluck saves the day in this

outsize popcorn feast that combines the

attributes of sci-fi movie, war movie,

monster movie, disaster movie and game. Director Roland

Emmerich maintains a brisk pace and does not neglect humour, though the movie would have been better if he had

not mixed up so many genres. With Bill Pullman, Jeff Goldblum and Will Smith, Available both as a rental

INDEPENDENCE DAY

FoxVideo, 12, 1996

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD

FoxVideo, U. 1951

NEATLY timed to coincide with the video release of Independence Day. classic arrives on the shelves in a new digital transfer. Robert Wise's cool and

precise direction lends a helpful, realistic air to the story of Klaatu, the extra-terrestrial diplomat trying to stop war. It is strange to think that Klaatu was first envisaged as a part for Spencer Tracy; Michael Rennie's stightly chilly demeanour is perfect for

the role. Bernard Herrmann's wonder-

fully eerie music score is bonus.

Entertainment, 18, 1995 AT FIRST Tran Anh Hung's second feature, after The Scent of Green Papaya, has an astonishing visceral impact: you are plunged into Ho Chi Minh City's urban hell along with a young bicycle-rickshaw driver who falls in with a criminal gang to recoup

the cost of his stolen vehicle. But the more the hero gets into trouble, the more oblique the director becomes as he forgoes motivation and character development for the pursuit of startling images, mingling beauty and horror. Not a film with a human face.

GEOFF BROWN

On the launch pad: alien spacecraft prepare to invade your video store in the sci-fi epic, Independence Day CYCLO

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Ockeghem's 500th; Branagh meets Mendelssohn; a mighty mezzo

VOCAL Hilary Finch

M JOHANNES OCKEGHEM Missa De plus en plus Tallis Scholars/Phillips Gimell 454 935-2** £12.99

WHILE feasting on this year's cornucopia of anniversary Schubert and Brahms; spare an ear for Johannes Ockeghem, the Flemish court composer and one of the most original musical minds of the 15th century, who died 500 vears ago. Two notable recordings hail the day. The Cierks' Group's

discerning, warmly human

performance of the Missa De

plus en plus is coupled with

motets and chansons, and is

the latest in their fine series of

Ockeghem recordings (ASV

CD GAU 153). And, hot off the

press, the Tallis Scholars'

grander, slightly cooler per-

formance of the same Mass is

twinned, valuably, with the

smaller-scale Missa Au tra-

vail suis. Each Mass is pref-

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aced by a lively three-part rendering of the secular lovesong on which it is based. The Missa De plus en plus

glows with a darker, winey vocal palette, its full choral sections perfectly blended, its duets and trios freewheeling and virtuosic. An travail suls is more fragile, transparent in its briefer full sections which Ockeghem's skill in composing a mean melody and both recordings, in their different ways, pay him fitting tribule.

Barry Millington

Sony SK 62826 * * £ £15.49

THERE are many recordings of Mendelssohn's incidental music for A Midsummer Night's Dream, but it is good be reminded how

THE NOS

music was intended to work. Here, selected extracts are narrated by Kenneth Branagh. He resourcefully, and amusingly, presents himself in the characters of a stern. masculine Oberon, a semifaisetto Titania and an impish,

Irish Puck. The score is brilliantly performed by Abbado and the Berlin Philharmonic, and the two sides, musical and dramatic (recorded six months apart in different countries). are seamlessly spliced. Sylvia McNair and Angelika Kirchschlager appear briefly as elves, and there is a fine contribution from the women

of the Ernst Senti Chorus The Italian Symphony is an all-too-predictable coupling. but if we have to have it, it is good to have it bursting with such Mediterranean vitality. Abbado's ear for inner detail is

> CDs reviewed in : The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345-023 498

with the strong melodic and rhythmic profile, makes for a radiant, sparkling reading.

always acute, and that, taken

John Higgins

WESSELINA KASAROVA A Portrait

Munich Radio Orchestra/ RCA 09026 68522 2** £9.99 WE ARE thish with outstand-

ing young mezio sopranos. Bulgarian Vesselina Kasarova is the latest to join ne led by Bartoli, Jennifer Larmore and Susan Graham: She made an impressive opera debut on disc at the end of last year in the title role of Rossini's Tancredi and is now rewarded with a solo recital.

Kasarova looks the one of the mezzo quartet most likely to inherit the Marilyn Home mantle. She has the same thunderous lower register and the same readiness to throw all inhibition to the winds

especially in Rossini. Listen to Kasarova singing Isabella's patriotic Pensa alla patria irom Litaliana in Algeri and it makes some other ladies attempting the same piece look like weaklings. Romeo's first act aria from Bellini's i Capuleti, recently staged in Paris with Kasarova, has the same panache. And if trumpets are the order of the day. she matches them blast for blast in Or la tromba from Handel's Rinaldo.

when the music demands.

She is less convincing in Mozart's gentler roles. Neither Zerlina nor Cherubino seems made for her, despite a clever thinning down of the voice. Her breathing sionally intrusive and RCA has not picked the supporting soloists wisely in the Bellini or in an extract from Donizetti's Anna Bolena. These shortcornings, plus a sloppily edited booklet, nudge the recital out of the three star class.

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DANCE

Flamenco receives the sober and straitlaced treatment in Paco Pena's new London show



MUSIC 1

In a Manchester recital the young mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli confirms her dazzling promise





■ MUSIC 2

Leonard Slatkin goes to the heart of Elgar in an eloquent performance with the Philharmonia



LONDON CONCERTS

Steady as he goes

■ TOMORROW

Will Blur's extraordinary new album horrify their fans? Read David Sinclair's verdict

Posturing gypsy passion

DANCE: Paco Peña's flamenco show is spectacular, says Nadine Meisner,

but where is the spontaneity?

co Peña is no sudden revelation, having performed in Britain for almost 30 years and founded his Fiamenco Dance Company in 1970. He is no dancer either, being a guitarist, and is keen to raise foreign audiences awareness of the singing in flamenco

the cante — traditionally considered the fundamental, inspirational

Marta Heredia, known as La Piconera, is one of the singers in Peña's latest show at the Peacock. Arte y Pasión, revealing a voice which even by flamenco's standards has an exceptionally hourse earthiness. Implicit tears seem to fall from every word; but although the printed programme includes translations, we all know about trying to read in the dark.

So, as always with Hispanicallychallenged audiences, it is the dance which focuses attention; and in this Arte v Pasión is modest in both its art and passion, reflecting perhaps the low-key stage persona of Pena himself. The young, rangy Angel Muñoz is the flashiest participant, entering like a version of the Kirov Ballet's Farouk Ruzimatov, dark curls streaming, aquiline profile ravishing. His extended solos grant him star-treatment and display a strikingly versatile talent, able to plunge into furious machine-gun footbeats as well as to decelerate into a balletic lyricism, with the simple sweep of an arm or a series of graceful slow-

here has been a blur-

broadcasting over the years.

disciplines was sensible as

than from the news.

cering.

The musical rhythms are so closely bound up in his choreography that when he repeats a delicately limpid sequence without the accompanying music you can actually hear the

melody in his steps.

Other dancers also avoid restricting themselves to one dimension. Ar first, in the opening martinete, Antonio Alcázar seems to slot himself into the category of punchy allegro dancer; but in the later tientos dues he shows a more expressive and reflective side. Charo Espino dances a statuesque soled and then returns in entirely different mode to play the castanets, the chattering of her hands engaging in a dialogue with Pena's

astanets, an ingredient of other Spanish dance forms, have only relatively recently been absorbed into flamenco. That is all part of flamenco's evolution, as is its transition to the international proscenium stage. How do you adapt to this setting? Peña's solution is to abandon all illusion of spontaneity and to opt for a highly orchestrated presentation, with carefully choreographed groupings, pas-sages of unison, and lighting that places silhouettes against slabs of glowing colour,

Is that why the pasion part of the title appears so muted? Straitiacketed into decoratively ordered sequences, fiamenco's extreme emotional language often seems reduced to empty



Statuesque dancing - and some mean castanet-playing - from Charo Espino (with Paco Peña behind)

ring of news and cur-rent affairs in Has the Each was once, at least at the empire operating behind Chinese walls (if not concrete ones). The merging of the two well as economic, but there are still moments when the distinction is important and when there is more to be for you? learnt from current affairs

Take Tuesday night. The big domestic news story, cer-tainly by The World Tonight clans and the reality encoun-tered by, for example, British lorry drivers.

at topm, was John Major swinging his handbag at the European Union and its so-One of the latter, interviewed by File on 4, thought cial chapter. The spin-doctors rushed into every studio to tell us that this was the Prime that he was carrying goods to Albania only to be met in Minister protecting our econ-Greece by a carload of men omy, stitching our precious pockets against the street urwearing black suits and dark glasses. The driver was obliged to follow the car through the back streets of chins of the minimum wage. in a word, it was election-Athens where the load was Anyone tuned in to Radio 4 put into a warehouse. Meanwhile guards on the Greekat 7.20 the same night heard about a real Euro scandal. File on 4, one of the most to stamp documents showing that the long had in fact informative programmes in the schedules, investigated the crossed the border, thus entitiling a trading company to vast amounts in reclaimed fraud in the transfer of goods between EU countries - and

between the EU and outside Perhaps this was a small Of course we all know that crime, a one-off? Sadly not. There are 18 million commer-Brussels wastes money. But a cial road traffic movements in comparison of File on 4 and Mr Major on the news amply the EU each year and modest estimates suggest that even if demonstrated what every only 1 per cent of them are fraudulent, the European tax-Eurosceptic knows: that there is an ocean of clear blue water payers are forking out £10

billion a year to criminals.

Of course the devil is in the detail. National Customs and Excise organisations are fighting a losing battle against are often obliged to use sys-tems so daft they would be mocked if employed by a candlestick maker. There are 50,000 customs posts in Europe Each one has a unique stamp for authenticating documents, meaning that needs to have copies of 50,000 stamps in order to check the authenticity of documents.

> pastime. A committee of the European Parliament is working to improve the system and all are agreed that computerisation would seriously reduce fraud. So why isn't the system computerised? Because member governments are refusing to pay for it. They probably think that spending a few million to save £10 billion wouldn't sound suffi-

The stamps are so basic that

criminals run up copies for a

ciently gung ho on the news. PETER BARNARD

Warmth of the south

about the new Bridge water Hall's imperfect acoustics that the success of its first season so far has been almost overlooked. And this week Manchester succeeded where London has just lost out

- by persuading the temperamental mezzo Cecilia Bartoli to appear. Bartoli, making her Manchester debut, mixed some of her familiar showpieces with fresh repertory. The first half was devoted to Vivaldi, music to which her compact, lyric

instrument is ideally suited. The short motet In furore iustissimae irae displayed her strengths in quick succession - brilliant coloratura, a relish of words in recitative, and her ability to spin long, limpid lines. She tore into the final "allehtia" with fervour, point ing up the way in which this motet anticipates Mozart's famous Exsultate Jubilate. Accompanied by the ensemble I Delfici - four strings led

Cecilia Bartoli Manchester

from the keyboard by György Fischer — she was also infi-nitely touching as the betrayed lover in the cantata Cessate, omai cessato and, though the strings sounded a little threadbare, one marvelled at the varied invention of Vivaldi's

Bartoli's vibrant voice may not be big but her range of expression is. In an aria from Vivaldi's opera La Griselda she fired off runs of utmost delicacy and sang with power. Though she may never grow into heavier roles, she is matchless in what she does: these Vivaldis, and an encore from Paisiello's opera Nina, pazza per l'amore, are reminders that this repertory

vival.

More exhilarating, though, were the mostly high-spirited French and Italian songs in the second half. It is hard to imagine Pauline Viardors disarmingly simple pieces being invested with deeper meaning than here: her Havannaise had beguiling, sensuous warmth, Hai lulii voluptuous vulnerability. Bartoli summoned up a mini-Carmen in the laughing lines of Delibes's Les Filles de Cadix, to suave and supportive accompani-

ment from Fischer. Voice and personality filled the hall in her final Rossini group. The bursting excitement of La regata veneziana, the long floated lines of Riedi al soglio from Zeimira, and the risk-taking of the Canzona Espagnola added up to a display of Rossinian singing at its full-throated, Italianate

JOHN ALLISON

the Barbican ended with the second programme of the London Symphony Orchestra's series devoted to the composer's centenary. It made one impatient for all the remaining concerts: with such warm and responsive playing the LSO may be a "natural" Brahms orchestra, but Colin Davis's exalted music-making here was about more than sheer beauty of sound.

His Brahms, we are learning, is slow. Even the Academic Festival Overture was stately, its subdued passages sounding almost elegiac. But no matter how dark and sonorous Davis made it, the inner textures came across with muscular clarity, and the final Gaudeamus igitur burst out joyfully.

Two Goethe settings provided the substance of the first half. The Alto Rhapsody was sung with eloquent poise by Sara Mingardo, a genuine contralto rather than lowish mezzo, in vibrant, burnished tone. The voice is focused and full-bodied all the way to the too, and Mingardo used it to produce long, seamless lines in a performance true to Brahms's almost secular spiri-

BRAHMS Discovery Day at Parzen, for six-part chorus and orchestra, is taken from one of Goethe's Classical texts and evokes a tragic grandeur; but even excellent singing from the London Symphony Chorus could not counter the impression of this being a heaving, dense score not entirely undeserving of its

> LSO/Davis Barbican

Davis's spacious approach to the Second Piano Concerto was matched by the thoughtful pianism of Gerhard Oppitz, who was solid in the Kempli mould and took a similarly long-breathed view of the score. In a performance based on real dialogue between piano and orchestra, the first movement sounded more than ever like giant chamber music. Oppitz was not shy of bravura outbursts, but his reluctance to indulge in empty virtuosity meant that for once this concerto did not sound like one of the big wristbreakers of the repertory.

JOHN ALLISON

Spirit of delight

tion from Shelley and a dedication to the memory of a King are all verbal embellishments on the score of Elgar's Second Symphony, and each affords some clue to its sometimes secretive character. Leonard Slatkin, the American who becomes the Philharmonia Orchestra's principal guest conductor next season, has long put British listeners in his debt for his perceptive understanding of English music, and so it was again here.

Without diminishing the public "face" of the music, with its typically stately sor-row, Slatkin took the Shelley quotation for his own motto: "Rarely, rarely comest thou, Spirit of Delight", and infused that spirit into the orchestra's attention to Elgar's markings. not least the frequent instructions to accelerate or pull back (sometimes both within a single bar), meant that the music's ebb and flow acquired an

eloquent beauty. The elegiac slow movement, so easily made to sound pompous by reference to the death of Edward VII, here became as intensely personal and poi-

gnant as anything by Mahler. And the conductor's skill in balancing instrumental textures meant that more of the inner detail was apparent than usual. This reinforced the sometimes tragic undercurrents in a performance of wonder and lasting fervour. Slatkin was also attentive to the vibrant account of Men-

> Philharmonia/ Slatkin Festival Hall

delssohn's Violin Concerto given by the Hamburg-born Christian Tetzlaff. With the orchestral strings reduced on basses the soloist had no difficulty staying dominant. But that exposed his wiry tone at the start, and his solo squeezed-out like toothpaste. He occasionally spun a fine thread of romantic feeling, but the finale was as much

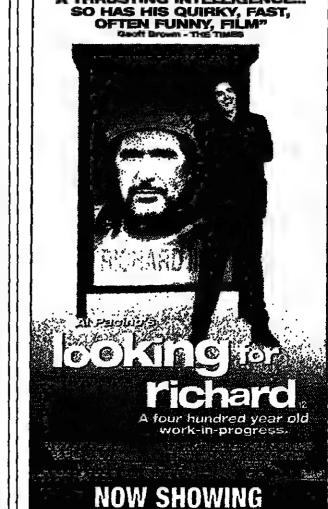
NOEL GOODWIN

brusque as brisk.

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"WITTY, INTELLIGENT, RUTHLESSLY ENERGETIC" SINUOUSLY CINEMATIC AND DRAMATICALLY PULSATING...

BEGUILINGLY QUIRKY "PACINO'S RICHARD HAS UNDENIABLE FORCE AND A THRUSTING INTELLIGENCE...



AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

SCOTTISH THEATRE: Neil Cooper on the excellent Passing Places

Uneasy riders on the storm

R oad movies can be many things, from the bantering Hope-Crosby vehicles to rides of existential angst. The nearest thing to it on stage has been Sam Shepard's excursions into the Wild West and dark heart of the American landscape. At Edinburgh's Traverse, Stephen Greenhorn's new play, Passing Places, takes all this and more on board, rooting things squarely in a Scottish culture obsessed with Americana but still in search of its own identity.

All this is relayed via Alex and Brian, a pair of smalltown boys going nowhere who get out the only way they know how -- doing a runner with a prized surfboard owned by Binks, Alex's psychopathic boss. The only transport on offer is a wornout Lada, a rusty symbol of once-united nations falling apart. The boys head north for Thurso, where the surf is up all year round.

Along the way they pick up wild child Mirren, who leads them the long way round a voyage of discovery, taking in the sights, sounds, but more



Kenneth Bryans and Paul Hickey in Passing Places

importantly the ideas of assorted fellow travellers they meet en route, including a kooky geologist and her crazy sculptor boyfriend, who transforms the once drab Lada into the archetypal candy-coloured streamline dream machine. And all the while, Binks is in hot pursuit. In a series of 50 short,

horn conveys all the wonders and frustrations of life on the road, fusing thickset banter with Zen Buddhism, then coming out the other side with something altogether new. For, in its youthful zest and vigour, this is a play about change; as much about the inarticulate half-formed desire for it as resistance to it. Alex and Brian are yin and shapshot-like scenes, Green-

yang in this way, a symbolic driver and guide each finding their own path to

Director John Tiffany has pulled off a quite remarkable feat in bringing this road movie for the stage to life at all. What might at first look like being ambitiously unwieldy is basically left to run on its own fuel. Tiffany is helped by a superlative cast, with Paul Hickey and Colin McCredie proving that opposites attract as Alex and Brian, while Kenneth Bryans is on menacing form as Binks. Stuart Bowman and Ian Macrae put out a scattershot array of cartoon cameos.

If there is a problem with the piece, it's perhaps a little too dependent at times on one-dimensional cultural sterectypes mouthing quasimystical platitudes. But then, maybe that is the point: we are all cartoons now.

Passing Places is another in a growing body of Scottish plays seeking out answers to a spiritual lack, not with dirty realism, but with grace and good humour worth making



Peter



A very snug sort of sock

y bookshelves are host to a good rate histories. They are kept out of harm's way on un reachable shelves, or concealed in cuphoards rarely opened: to preserve them carefully, you understand for generations yet unborn.

So the arrival of a weighty tome entitled Kleinwort Benson does not exactly set the pulse a-racing. Though Mrs Nicola Horlick has done her best to add a touch of galety to the merchant-banking scene, one does not expect the same excitement from an account of the stern German Kleinworts or the upright Quaker Bensons. But this is too pessimistic a prognosis. Jehanne Wake has done both more — and less — than the conventional corporate historian.

Hers is, in a sense, three books in one. The first is a family history of the Kleinworts, from 1613 to the present: the second is a family history of the Bensons from 13th-century Lakeland on: the third is a rather sketchy account of the background to the merger in 1960 and the firm's acquisition by the Dresdner Bank Group in 1995.

The first two "sub-plots" provide a lascinating comparison between the merchant classes of Britain and Germany. The third is a perfunctory effort, and the reader will learn little new about the dynamic which drove two of the City's frontrank institutions together and then into the arms of a German universal bank.

David Kynaston's definitive history of the City describes the Kleinworts as "the classic case" of nonintegration into the culture of the London market. And the Kleinwort who did most

Howard Davies

KLEINWORT BENSON The History of Two Families in Banking By Jehanne Wake OUP, £25 ISBN 0 198282990

made his first serious money Havana in the 1840s. Havana was, shall we say, not the most tightly regulat-ed trading market and "the Kleinwort bank was founded on the proceeds of gun-running, shirt and currency smuggling, and cigars." Alexander also dealt in what his accounts book described as "socks" - linen condoms. These exotic trades provided him with the capital base to establish a partnership in London in 1835.

The Bensons had reached London three years earlier. The family began trading cotton cloth from Kenda through Liverpool; only when railways began to look a better bet than cotton did they decide to move south.

The families' perspectives were quite different: For the Kleinworts banking continued to form the main interests of their lives, together with the belief that the family firm always came first. For the Bensons, however, banking continued to be but the means to an end."

It would be wrong to draw a simplistic lesson from this comparison. Perhaps the best conclusion is that the City's strength has been, and remains, that both Kleinworts and Bensons can flourish, whether in common cotton, or in licentious

Howard Davies is Deputy Governor of the Why another Odyssey?

هكذا من رلاميل

o translate the 12,000 lines of Homer's Od-Homer has always been to ge on top of the works as a whole. The Odyssey is famous for its parts, for the hero's escape yssey into English is a massive task which from the Cyclops by twisting a hot stake in its single eye ("and has been undertaken many times. In the roll-call of Robert the hot blast singed his brow and eyelids round the core and Fagles's predecessors stand Shakespeare's contemporary the broiling eyeball burst"), for the faithfulness of Penelope at George Chapman, whose bold couplets so inspired Keats, the Victorian polymath Samuel Butler, who thought that Homer was a woman from Sicily; the mad poetic genius her loom, the Sirens' "ravishing voices" for the death of Odysseus's old dog, Argos, happy at last that his master William Cowper; Thomas has come home. One of the finest scenes, the journey to the world of the dead, was devel-oped by Virgil and Dante into one of the cornerstones of Hobbes in his eccentric old age and, most celebrated of them all, Alexander Pope, whose best-selling translation of The Iliad made him rich enough to Europe's culture. take on The Odyssey with a hired team of assistants.

All these men wrote for readers of Classical learning

and leisure. Yet in our own

hurried century, too, while

ancient literature has faced its

greatest threat since the fall of

Rome, there have come distin-

guished attempts upon The

Odyssey from Ezra Pound,

T.E. Lawrence and Robert

Fitzgerald. The plain prose of E. V. Rieu's Penguin Classic

Pope's poetry; Allen Mandel-baum's easy-listening lines are

now enlivened in a taped performance by Derek Jacobi;

and there is is still the fashion-

able American, Richmond Lat-

timore, whose Longfellow-like

verse was as favoured in the

Seventies as, at least for this

Now we have the work of

Fagles, another American poet

and professor at Princeton. At

the end of this book, when

Odysseus is safely back home.

when his rivais have been

speared, the disloyal maids

hanged, and when life on the

island of Ithaca has finally

returned to the peace of before

the Trojan War, Fagles pro-vides a postscript in which he thanks his friends for never

asking the question "Why another Odyssey?". By this stage, after more than 400 fast

and forceful pages, the reader

is presumably intended to

applaud the friends' good

manners. With a few small

cavils, this reader does ap-

plaud. The "why another Od-

vasey" question still, however.

needs an answer.

student, it was discouraging.

The totality of the poem has been correspondingly neglected. Not even students of the Classics have had to read it all. For them, too, the rewards lay in the parts, in the answers to the questions of who composed The Iliad and The Odyssey and at what time, whether there was one Homer or two or 2,000, whether the composers ever learnt to write or whether they were always singers simply remembering sections and chunks of lines. has been hardly less profitable in the bookshops than was The inconsistencies of language and morality, burial practice and building materials had to be laid bare; too often there was little of the Fagles writes like a man for

whom the whole is vastly more than the part. He has been helped by a similar slow trend among scholars. I should hesitate to say that there is now a consensus on these Homeric problems. Imagine, however, that in the years between the great Mycenaean kingdoms, whose palaces and primitive skills in written Greek were destroyed around 1200 BC, and the rebirth of Greek literacy with a new more practical alphabet around 800 BC, there were groups of illiterate wandering bards who told travellers tales in easily remembered rhythmic hexameter lines. Imagine that Mediterranean audiences could pick and mix from the bardic repertory and that the singer-poets would keep a stock of prepared metrical phrases to fit their various characters in various situations: and that over time

more durable.

Imagine then that close to 725 BC, some 500 years after the fall of Troy, someone who came to be called Homer wrote down his best version of the most popular bardic poems; that this text became rapidly the carionical version; that, although he smoothed out some of the competing versions of the war and home ward travels, he felt no need to impress future scholars with his perfectionism.

omer's art was in the giant sweep of the stories, the conflicts of changing characters in changing times, the perils of peace and war on earth, among the dead and with the gods on Mount Olympus. His dawns were often "rosy-fingered" and his seas "wine-dark" — too often for critics who misunderstood the needs of oral poets to finish a line. But his art lay in his manipulation of the heritage he had chosen: this art Pagles aims to place before us almost

three millennia later. The opening of the poem is not one of the sections normally most favoured. It describes how, in the long absence of Odysseus, his house is being wrecked by claimants for his wife and bed. His son Telema chus, a petulant adolescent can do nothing to stop the rot do not commonly say "you'd fortunes changing "with a vengeance". Fagles has a sure grasp of this youthful subur-ben air, much stronger than

Once we himself for the first time. caught in the tender trap of the queenly nymph" Calypso, the ere changes. The solid world has gone, the mysterious tales begin and some readers may miss their traditional English renderings of centuries past. In the garden of the Phaeacian king, Alcinous, Fagles finds neither the magic nor the real desirability of a Utopian orchard where "those fruits, nor winter's cold nor summer's heat fear ever, fail

that of Mandelbaum or

Similarly, in the more famous set-piece scene where the crippled Hephaestus fixes a trap for his wife Aphrodite and

not, wither not but hang

perennial, while unceasing

Fagles is also rather flat. The caparet for all the male inhabbeholds, imprisoned as they ive, and unextinguished laughter shakes the sky", runs the vivacious rococo version of Pope and his helpers in 1725. According to Fagles, "uncontrollable laughter burst from the happy gods", a sentence that is hardly less lame than

During these difficult magical interludes Fagles is at his best in the great Homeric similes. He senses better than anyone how Odysseus hears Demodocus's songs of Tray at and for his lost friends, like a husband on a battlefield while digging spear-butts into her back and shoulders, drag her off into bondage". Lest we seem to praise Fagles older rivals too much, it is worth saying here that the bold Chapman misunderstood this

End Avenue (whose protago-

nist was a German Jew exiled during both the First and Second World Wars) and his

second, Kraven Images, whose

hero's career of deception

long glances at "works not

scenes of deception and recog-nition as the hero tests his family and friends, driving his lines at a surging pace. His than merely move the great reader always on top of the ection with a vantage point to

see the subtlety of the actors. pe, despite her later reputation, uncertainty; she has given everyone grounds to hope and her son good reason to be frustrated. She also has intuitions of Odysseus's disguised

grace the heroine of a novel. The glory-seeking warrior ethos of Achilles Iliad is commonly contrasted with The Odyssey's softer postwar survival virtues. Yet, as Bernard Knox points out in the once the arrows start to fly. We watch how, even before his reduces his disloyal shepherd to a broken bag of bones. As "under the suitors" bodies. rutting on the sly", Telemachus hangs each one in the back yard: "they kicked up

heels for a little, not for long". In a well-rendered Odyssey nothing is quite what it seems. Modern writers owe it much. For cumulative plotting and complex motivation Homes sets an awesome standard for all time. I always feel a tiny choke in my throat when in the opening few lines the performing poet calls on the Muse to speak again - "for us too". For generation, after generation. that Muse has spoken to so many. Fagles translates the Zeus, start from where you will - sing for our time too"

She does and so does he.



welcome return: Lawrence Macdonald's sculpture of Odysseus greeted by Argos

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The importance of being Jewish Erica Wagner

uggest. In the middle of the was born David Lurie to two "gin-sodden" East End Jews. himself adopted by Sir Benja-Whitechapel Asylum for Hebrew Orphans. Thus was his life transformed — but for the successful, he still feels himself to be outside of the society to

moved with ease and freedom. There was forever something behind their hooded eyes, he ielt, some unspoken thing, that some extent this format, which locked him out." has the flavour of a creative-It is this locking out that drives Op. Non Cir. Isler, born and brought up in Britain, writing exercise ("Imagine the thoughts of the Man from

OP. NON CIT. By Alan Isler Cape, £12.99 ISBN 0 224 04386 2 States and recently returned to first novel, The Prince of West

Isler: keen observation

making the book a game of spot-the allusion: Gladstone meets Wilde aboard ship and tells him of his own unpromising beginnings, and then of those of another orphan -"He had been left and then found atop a Hebrew bible in a rather capacious handbag in the cloakroom of Victoria Sta-

This is distracting, isler is an able, nimble writer who can slip this stuff in easily, just as he can work up a love duet for a modern musical about the Dreyfus Affair (Spring-time for Hitler, anyone?). "If

" Fun as it is, to a certain extent it detracts from what Isler is really good as here: portraying with subtlets; and sensitivity the one remove from life at which his characters perceive themselves to stand. In The Bacon Fancier. 🚺 Cardozo, one-cyed violin maker from Venice - but now settled, quite naturally, in Porlock — finds his life seems empty when his Queenie dies, a stray girl he took in and loved, and who put up with being called the Jooey Zoor — the Jew's whore — for his

Both outsiders, both found solace in each other's arms: the interrupted Coleridge does not really matter one way or the other. It is the same with Gladstone and Wilde. The latter telling the former that "society will always win" doesn't really come as news. Much more effective is Gladstone's fruitless confrontation with the fraudulent General "Gallant Jack" Barth, after which the General noted him with dead eyes that turned away." It is its keepness of observation, not its flickering cleverness, that makes Op. Non Cit. more than an after-

Just to furnish a room

ntil April 27, an exhibi-tion of Folio Society books can be seen at the British Library, under the title "Beautiful Books". The Society and the Library have also jointly published Paul W. Nash's bibliography Folio 50 (£50), with skew-whiff lettering on the front board. ing on the front board.
The Folio Society has pub-

lished around a thousand titles, yet it has never quite got things right. Instead of books it produces garish ornaments. They are, sadly, naff (OEDunfashionable, outmoded, or vulgar: unselfconsciously lacking style, socially inept; also, worthless, faulty, dud ?. Folio's founder. Charles

Ede. was inspired by Golden Cockerell and Nonesuch Press books, and set out to produce a "poor man's fine edition". From him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. If the poor man had collected Folio books, he would now be poorer still. Most titles are now between £20 and £40, and like cars they can almost be guaranteed to lose value as soon as they leave the showroom. The secondhand trade doesn't fancy Folios. An auction at Bonhams next week has 20 lotted togeth-er with an estimate of just E50-E70. The Folio edition of The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich is priced at £84.50. A dealer would be generous to give you £25 for it. My copy of the first edition, from a market

stall, cost a recoupable £5.

But the true objection to the Folio Society is that it is for people who know they should read but don't. Scarcely any of these unhandy volumes feel like the proper form in which to enjoy the authors. Whether it be a simple Penguin or an



BIBLIOMANE

Everyman, or an old copy that someone has handled before - almost anything is more comfortable. For all the boasts about how well it crafts them the Folio Society doesn't quite like: only what a Folio book looks like. And despite being a major patron of wood-engravers, it has no idea how to print their often exquisite blocks with any delicacy.

Alongside the Folio exhibition, and with Polio's support, is another display of self-regard: "designer" bookbindings: With rare exceptions (Brian Robinson, Geert van Daail, these are of uniform hideousness. The unconventional and There is no designing going on here, just ingrowing. Even the "set book" is Bernard C. Middleton's Recollections: My Life in Bookbinding. Incidentally, is anyone else invited to showcase commercial work atthe British Library every year? This bunch have at least got

one thing right. It's a shame when a skill is lost because the gullible are led by the plausible, and told to be "experimental" or "subversive". It has happened with poncy bookbinding, and I fear that calligraphy is going the same way, after hearing a Letter Exchange lecture last year. be an artist with the nib but is now a deconstructionist. Finding the pen insufficiently mighty, he has taken up other weapons, cutting and cudgelling vellum to represent menstruating vaginas and calling a protest at the ways Roman Farholics treat women.

Now we know. J.R.R. Tolkien was the greatest author of the century (and Folio's most popular pixle). So although the memory of having The Hobbit read to me at school still makes me feel unwell, a worthless 12th impression fetched E782 at Bloomsbury Book Auctions recently being signed by the author. Thank you, but I'd rather have the riveting volume lovingly (or fictitiously?) catalogued by Charlbury Old Books: A. M. Samuel, The Herring: Its Effect on the History of Britain (Murray, 1918, 198pp), E18. Time to find out which books readers most hate.

Nominations please. JIM MCCUE

NEW AUTHORS PUBLISH YOUR WORK Religious, Poetry, Children's. AUTHORS WORLDWOE INVITED MINERVA PRESS

Allan Levy finds that an analysis of the implications of Jamie Bulger's death raises many legal and social issues

To one who saw them is ever likely to forget the quivering video images from a security camera of toddler Jamie Bulger being abducted from among shoppers and led to his awful death by two ten-year-old boys, Robert Thompson and Jonathan Venables. The removal of the child from Bootle Strand shopping centre, the enforced walk for two and a half miles to the railway line, the conversations with various adults, and the final acts of violence and abuse provided a searing example of the worst nightmare of every parent and child. Although the killing and the trial took place three years ago, the case is still at the forefront of public interest and debate. In particular, issues related to the convicted boys' sentences await a judicial ruling in the House of Lords and wider trial matters are to be considered by the European Commis-

sion of Human Rights in Strasbourg,
Blake Morrison is interested in the
fundamental question of why the two
young boys killed another child. He found
irresistible the offer from The New Yorker irresistible the offer from The New Yorker magazine to cover the murder trial in Preston in November 1993. Finding the whole experience disturbing, he nevertheless thought that once his article was published he would forget about the case. But it would not go away.

Provoked perhaps in part by John Major's far from illuminating soundbite on the case that "we must condemn a little more, and understand a little less." he has now written a challenging book which

now written a challenging book which searches for the clues to why the boys behaved as they did. He also examines carefully the way our criminal justice system tries to cope with such young children on trial and the effect it had on them and the three families whose lives

Drawn again to a senseless death that will not fade away

AS IF By Blake Morrison Granta Books, £14.99 ISBN 186207 003-2

were devastated. He slowly recognised that the trial process would consider the where and when and the how and by whom the killing took place, but not what made two ten-year-old boys kill an innocent child. He felt as if something important had hap-pened at the trial that still has not been faced or explained.

Searching for solutions, Blake Morrison considers how the murdered child's mother must feel and is driven back on his own experience of nearly losing a child. He follows the rouse the children took on the fateful day, and tries to imagine the feelings and reactions of the three children. He ruminates on the restriction on the experi psychiatric evidence and the teachers' evidence at the trial in the attempt to determine whether the boys knew the difference between right and wrong at the time of the killing.

Observing that adults find it hard enough to act on their knowledge of right and wrong, he wonders whether children



November 24, 1993: the verdict on the Bulger case delivered by Mr Justice Morland

ponders on the influence of parents and the absence of parents and the extent, if any, to which they should attract blame. He considers the possible influence on children

the limit of their understanding of the possible consequences of violence. He weighs the possible sexual aspects of the case. He comes to the conclusion that in the search for understanding in such a case we must, to an extent, look within our own

Blake Morrison examines the legal system that dealt with the case. The trial raises many pressing and controversial issues. Should ten-year-olds be subject to the full panoply of an English criminal trial in an adult Crown Court held in public? The minimum age of criminal responsibility is in fact ten whereas in most other European countries it is between 13 and 16. Are ten-year-olds capable of understanding the adversarial process and giving instructions to their lawyers? What is the right way to deal with young children who kill? Should we be following a civil welfare approach which recognises the need to detain children when appropriate?

The Bulger case has given rise to strong emotions, not least in some parts of the media. What is desperately needed is a rational debate about a legal system which cries out for reform. The process will not gain from being at the mercy of narrow, seemingly political interests. We need to draw on the experience of other systems and recognise that a degree of complacency has resulted in both children and adults being ill-served when caught up in the criminal courts.

Blake Morrison has contributed greatly to this debate and his thought-provoking book should be read by all those who have a serious interest in the vital process of reform. If some good is to come out of this horrific case some further dispassionate, apolitical consideration needs to be given urgently to the many disturbing questions raised by the death of Jamie Bulger,

Allan Levy, QC, is a specialist in child law.

A tenuous hold on the colonies

Felipe

Fernández-

Armesto risks his health for

history's sake

istorians' output has increased, is ought to be diminished. Much of it is subbish. Vulgarisations bloat bookshelves. Academic fat clogs bibliographies and threatens the vital organs of learning with hypertrophy. A strict regimen might save us otherwise, patrons and taxpayers, revolted by the useless corpuence, will be right to impose a

We need writers who take pride and reviewers who take prisoners. Editors and publishers' readers must make uncompromising demands. Research assessment committees should start deducting present, there is more pressure to write than to write worthily. Academics without genuine vocation get away with glaring ignorance, feeble scholarship, shallow thinking, slipshod writing. In a climate of indolence and self-interest, those with laurels to rest on and stipends to draw on are almost indennified against criticism If they are in positions of power or paironage, they can rely on sycophancy from col-

leagues and students.
We all know that academic journals publish plagiarism and gobbledegook without detecting it. It is more disturbing when a book like Marc Ferro's Colonization is deemed worthy of translation, produced in a delusively cheap paperback and endorsed by dons who ought to know better. Ignorant readers are lucky: they will only be misled. The knowledgeable may risk apoplexy. · The alchemy of error pro-



Setting a time and place: British Ambassador Lord Macartney encounters the Chinese Emperor Chien Lung in 1793; taken from an anonymous illustration, dated 1806

COLONIZATION A Global History By Marc Ferro K. D. Prithipaul Routledge, £16.99 ISBN 0.415-14008-0

Warren Hastings becomes a "Scottish military pioneer". Gordon of Khartoum, also cast as a Scot, is said to have "played an important role" 60 years before his birth. Those who thought Lord Macartney went to China in 1793 will be surprised to learn that "Great Britain sent its first important

ambassador, Mac Cartway, to Peking (1797)." In Professor Ferro's madcap chronology, a defeat can be "avenged" before it happens.

Such ignorance might be pardonable in a work with other merits. Here, however, lapses of logic, errors of inter-pretation, deficiencies of judgment and passages of literal nonsense are almost as rife as the factual mistakes. In its very conception, the work is fatally flawed. Ferro starts off by confessing his confusion over the difference between colonisation and imperialism. This confusion, never resolved, is easily spread to the

In consequence, there is almost nothing in the book about the subject proclaimed in the title. We never know where colonists came from or where they went or in what numbers or how they adapted the environment. We are not told what crops or what trades or (except in the 20th century) what commerce sustained them. Their lives, their dwellings, their settlements, their art, their morale, their religions - whatever might bring the book to life - are omitted.

Instead, we are given a series of apparently arbitrarily selected examples of relations between incomers and natives and between colony and metropolis. Almost half the book is taken up by narratives of decolonisation; all are conventional to the point of tedium. except for a curious excursion on the Maoist terror-clique of Peru, Sendero Luminoso, which even the author seems to regard as irrelevant. Promise flashes briefly when treatment of the cinema of colonialism is announced. The writer is known as an expert on this subject. But the reels seem to have got twisted and

the picture show called off. The subtitle's claim that this is a "global history" is laughable. There are some perfunctory, poorly informed passages on Japanese imperialism; and Ferro, genuinely interested in Russia, is right to treat the Soviet Union as an empire. Commendably he has managed to fit in a couple of pages on Egyptian imperial-Ism. For the rest, however, the round-up is of the usual suspects: the white empires founded from Western Europe and North America, and postcolonial exploitation by their

In the Post-Modern world where facts transmute and values vanish, it is impossible

to stop books like this from being written; but by con-demning them we can help to make publishers more cautious and protect a profession in danger of disgrace. Colonization would appear to be proof that, at present, rigour is not required for advancement or esteem and that it is not even necessary to think clearly or write well.

Felipe Fernandez-Armesto's books include Millennium: A History of Our Last Thousand Years (Bantam, £ 14.99).

THE 🎎 TIMES 🤉 BOOKSHOP

SPECIAL OFFER

SOTHEBY'S: INSIDE STORY

by Peter Watson

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In the thick of the madding crowd

laubert famously wanted to write a novel in which—nothing hapwhich-nothing happened. Upon reading the latest offerings from two of America's finer women writers. Mona Simpson and Louise Erdrich, one wishes that they had at least considered the merits of such a project. Both women have produced sprawling, exuberant novels that are marred, above all, by the fact that too much happens in

Louise Erdrich's Tales of

Burning Love roams terrain familiar to her readers, and illuminates, for those who are interested, events left unexplained in The Bingo Palace.. But the new book is, above all, a novel about one man, Jack Mauser, and his five wives: Eleanor, Candice, Marlis, Dot and the long-dead June Morrissey. Mauser is, at the book's outset, married to Dot Nanapush, wife number five. She, unbeknownst to Jack, is still married to her incarcerated first husband Gerry, but is initially unaware of Jack's former spouses. Eleanor, wife number two, an academic skulking in a convent, is

crucial among them: she and

Jack are still having an affair.

Claire Messud

TALES OF **BURNING LOVE** By Louise Erdrich Flantingo, £6.99 ISBN 0006547915 A REGULAR GUY By Mona Simpson Faber, £15.99

Meanwhile. Candice Pantamounty, an efficient dentist and wife number three, has taken on - and fallen in love with - the woman who is Jack's fourth wife, Marlis, and her infant son.

On New Year's Eve, Jack is apparently burnt to a crisp in a handy fire at his faltering property development, and his four wives gather after the funeral to discuss the disposal of his remains, Stranded in a car, in a blizzard, they recount to each other their "Jack" stories - a sort of "Jack's Wives Club". Jack, meanwhile, has made a canny escape, as has Dot's first husband Gerry, who has survived a plane crash while being transferred from one prison to another. As these brother. A millionaire before

rollicking adventures pile up without any apparent irony, it remains unclear where the novel's focus lies: the book is neither a rounded portrait of Jack, nor a full exploration of NARRATTVE exigencies over-

ride any natural character development. Louise Erdrich is a fine writer, and reveals her gifts for gracious and delicate prose; but in its over-plotted frenzy, Tales of Burning Love seems more suited for video than for the page.

There is nothing preposter-ous about Mona Simpson's A Regular Guy, or almost nothing: an early scene in which ten-year-old Jane Owens drives all night, from her mother to her father, augurs unlikely events, but Jane is soon reuinted with her mother, installed in a bungalow not far from her father, Tom, and embarked upon an only mildly eccentric California child-

Tom Owens is the "regular guy" of the title - a character reportedly based on Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple Computers and Mona Simpson's long-lost biological



the age of 30 and a corporate cast-off not long thereafter, a vegetarian hippie with odd notions about education and vague political ambitions. Tom Owens is, in many ways, far from regular. His entourage, however - his girlfriend Olivia, his wheelchair-bound scientist buddy Noah, Jane and her mother Mary - is more peculiar than he, not least because they all hang out together and spend such a lot of time puzzling over the nature of his soul.

The scope of Simpson's novel is ambitious and intriguing. She traces the odd web of

pretagonist, and if too much hannens it is not because planes pop out of the sky and houses burn down, but because the book follows a lot of people over a number of years, and because these people lack proportion. If the guy at the core were less lusive, this would not matter; but Owens remains shadowy, and even uninteresting, as does Jane, the novel's other central character. Noah, the scientist, is, on the other hand. tremendously vivid, the book's

most engaging figure: as he frets about scientific failure and sexual inadequacy, we are swept, delightfully, along. But the novel is not his, or not sufficiently. Indeed, Simpson seems uncertain of how to shape the narrative, as if she

> tions "whose story is it?" and "what is at stake?" Flaubert wanted to write a plotiess novel because purity of prose and the truth of human nature were at the heart of his work. In some combination, they are at the heart of all the best fiction. These two novels remind us that sometimes, alas, the go-

ings-on just get in the way.

had not asked the vital ques-

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McCall lets title glory concentrate the mind

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

OLIVER McCALL had energy to burn when he arrived in Las unfinished business with Lennox Lewis. George Benton, his trainer, implored McCall to take a breather. wind down and get reacclimatised to the pace and glitz of the fastest growing city in the United States, But McCall asked for more.

"I didn't want Oliver to go to the gym," Benton said. "He had to take a drug test, had that on his mind. The hard work has been done, but he wanted to release some of his

"He's knocked out Lewis once, that will be on Lewis's mind and that must give Oliver all the confidence in the world. We are down to what's in the mind and we are confident of winning."

McCall, who is in his third bout of drugs rehabilitation, was tested by the Nevada State Athletic Commission and will go through the same mandatory procedure after the contest for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight championship at the Hilton Centre tomorrow night. The former champion took the WBC crown off Lewis with one powerful right hand at the Wembley Arena in September 1994. In order to stabilise the most turbulent period in his life, McCall needs to win back the title.

The American had one successful title defence against Larry Holmes, the veteran. before losing the crown to Frank Bruno on an unforgettable night for British boxing at Wembley Stadium. Victories over the unde-

manding opposition of Oleg Maskaev and James Stanton No 2 contender's position and in place to challenge for the title once it was relinquished by Mike Tyson.

"I think about the other guy setting out to best me up." McCall said. I think about winning, I'm not going to lose. I don't want to get hurt. It's not a scared feeling. I try to

opponent: You ain't gonna hurt me. You'll put no lear in me. I'm coming at you with all my power and force, full force'. Lewis must have received that message in our

first fight. "I've knocked him out once and I'm going to knock him out again. I want to prove my previous win over Lewis wasn't a fluke. Tell Lennox Lewis he's going to get

I'm now in the shape I was

when I knocked out Lewis the first time. I'm like Clark Kent. I've put on my Superman cape again. I going to have that belt back. I've got God in my corner, Oliver is a warrior, a real warrior with God in my corner. Lewis can have all the best trainers. They can tell him how to fight, but they can't put the fight in him."

McCall said that he had his first encounter with drugs rehabilitation before the Bruno bout, and added: "It failed, I went about it incorrectly. I was going to the clinic as an out-patient, when I should have signed on full-time. The drugs and alcohol outside overpowered me. I wasn't able to sustain myself, I was consumed in the battle. This time, I've controlled myself." Robert McCracken, the un-

beaten Commonwealth middleweight champion from Birmingham, must have another scan on his back before being given the goahead to return to the ring. McCracken is recovering from surgery in December, when he had fluid drained from his spine and a hole in a disc at the top of his back repaired.

McCracken would have been unable to box again told that a punch in the wrong place could have paralysed

boxing again at the end of April and said: "I am feeling a lot better. It was hurting me easing off and hopefully it has



Guy Pinsent, left, and Jim Cartwright, of the Cambridge team, go through an intense sparring session

Students seek a new punch-line

ambridge, who have lost the II previous University boxing matches, are ferociously intent on winning the centenary tournament next month. They spent last Saturday at Crystal Palace training alongside the Young England team that faces the United States at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, in London, this week. Under the tutelage of lan Irwin, the national coach, the University squad acquired extra ringcraft and technical skills that they will need at The Guildhall, Cambridge, on

It is a hazardous task. Oxford have been as dominant in boxing as they were in rowing in the late 1970s and at 43-all. However, the mood at Cambridge is one of upbeat concentration.

March 14.

"I want to help to try to make it more of an even match," Irwin said. "We are focusing this weekend on widening their technical skills. They have five weeks to go before the match and in the John Goodbody finds Cambridge determined to end Oxford's dominance in the boxing ring

first four of those weeks they can push themselves." Cambridge are already doing plenty of physical work. running most mornings plus four gym sessions a week. Dave Freeiand, the captain, who is taking a PhD in magnetic multi-layers in physics, admitted: "Our coaches are quite good siave-drivers."

With the demise of boxing in schools, it is extremely rare for any undergraduate to have even been inside the ring before going up to university. Rob Stratton, who, together with Graham Greenaway. at Cambridge, said: "We do have a captive audience. The students are fired up by the fact that they want a blue on their CV. So we get about fifty lads in the gym at the start of the year. We lose about thirty in a few weeks. We can then work with those who have the character for the sport."

club boxers, considers the University match "a very tough affair". He added: "Club boxing may be more skilful, but the Varsity match, with a 2,000 audience, is completely hyped up. It is a terrifying situation for a boxer terrifying situation for a boxer of that experience. Club boxers never have to face a situation like that."

hat pleased Stratton about the annual men such as Colin Moynikan, the former Minister for Sport, Minister for Sport, and Kris Kristofferson, the actor, have taken part, is the comradeship of the opponents. Stratton said: Last year, Alex Mehta, one of the Oxford team, made a mess of his Cambridge opponent. But he wrote a lovely letter to

Nobody fully understands

insut, though they have had superb coaching and Straiton adds that they have acquired a nucleus of boxers and have fed off it At Cambridge, we have had boxers for a year who have then drifted away". Freeland, himself a graduate of Oxford. karate rather than boxing. said: "Oxford have had better continuity and a large gym."
It was to offset these advantages that he approached Irwin, a fellow Cumbrian, for

entra training Freeland is curaptured by boxing. "It is the ultimate ing is just one man against another. It is so physically and mentally demanding that other sports are almost a preparation for it." Freeland is one of four old blues in the Cambridge team that put up an impressive performance against Sandhurst recently. Stratton said: "I can't say vhether we will beat Oxford, but we will be competitive."

Woods wilts in the heat of return to **Thailand**

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TIGER WOODS, the young professional hailed as the brightest prospect on the US PGA Tour, has had the edge taken off his return to his mother's home country by illness and fatigue. Woods. greeted by cheering crowds when he arrived in Thailand on Tuesday, was forced to pull out of the pro-am event preceding the Asian Honda Classic, which starts today, after being laid low by the

Exhausted after a sleepless night and recovering from food poisoning. Woods, who was raised in the United States, withdrew on the 13th hole in Bangna. "Tiger is in from heat exhaustion after the long flight from the US." Peter German, the tournament director, said yesterday "He is not at all well. He cannot give a press conference

Woods, 21, who has become one of the best-known sportsmen in Thailand, teed off at 11.10am and by midday the temperature had risen to 35C, with intense humidity. By the 3rd hole, he was showing signs of tiredness and stom ach cramps. After four hours, he was driven off in a cart after failing to complete the 6th and 8th holes.

John Cream, a spokesman for the Asian PGA, said that Woods had endured a flight lasting 20 hours and had only two hours of sleep before flying by helicopter to the Sangkok suburb. He had been flown back to his Bang kok hotel to rest, Cream said. Also scheduled to compete in Thailand with Woods, who is ranked No 14 in the world

after only 11 professional tournaments, are Steve Elkington, the US PGA champion in 1995, Curtis Strange and Frank Nobilo of New Zealand

Emie Els is not in Thailand and instead tees off at the South African Open today to launch a three-tournament sa-fari for the PGA European Tour. Ian Woosnam, Vijay Singh and Costantino Rocca will also be competing at the course, at Johannesburg, before moving on to Sun City and then the South African PGA championship, back in SQUASH

Rivals set their sights on Jansher

BY COUN MCQUILLAN

JANSHER KHAN'S domination of world squash has been so complete that the notion of an "unlucky" venue is hardly likely to dent his confidence to any significant degree. Yet even he will have noted with some concern the announcement yesterday that the Equitable Life Super Series finals are to be held again at The Galleria in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

It was there, 12 months ago and in the same event, that Jansher suffered his last defeat. Although Del Harris, of Great Britain, his conqueror on that occasion, will not be in attendance this time, the other seven contenders have shown the kind of form that could undermine the Pakistani's aura of invincibility.

Rodney Eyles and Brett Martin, of Australia, Peter Nicol, of Scotland, Chris Walker, Simon Parke and Mark Cairns, of England, and Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, have earned their places through their results at the seven Hi-Tec Super Series tournaments on the Professional Squash Association (PSA) World Tour.

Eyles, the world No 2, was in sparkling form for Ellis Lingfield in the Super Squash League this week, defeating Cairns 9-2, 5-9, 9-6, 10-8. However, his success at first string was not enough to prevent Dunraven Maeste winning the match 2-1 and

moving to the top of the table. Walker, the highest-ranked Englishman, at No 4, on the PSA list, took his first tour title at the Apawamis, in New York, at the start of the year and went on to reach the semifinals of most of the Super Series events. This week, he defeated Derek Ryan, the Ireland champion, 9-6, 4-9, 9-7, 5-9, 9-6 to dinch a Super Squash League win for ICL LionHerts against Rowlands Manchesto

Jansher, the world champion, is serving a PSA suspen-sion for his late withdrawal from the Mahindra event and may take up his Super Squash League registration with Surbiton in order to get sharp for the Hatfield tournament. which runs from March 26-29. The Surrey side could certainly do with him: they are propping up the table, along with Lingfield, and have a series of tough encounters to

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

There was some good partnership understanding, and thoughtful play, on this hand from the 1997 Macalian international pairs. Christian Mari was North and Omar Sharif

North-South game 9AJ102 **VAK94 +Q74** ₹10876 +AKJ1095 +859 · \$ **4J 16 5** 4KQ5 VQ5

#AQ98643 Contract: Bix Clubs by South

West opened a weak Two Diamonds, Mari doubled and East raised to Three Diamonds: Sharif bid Four Diamonds. In the first instance, all that said was that he wanted to play in Four of a major, but, when he removed Mari's Four Hearts to Five Clubs, he showed an excellent hand with a club suit. Mari completed a good auction by raising to Six Clubs.

You might think that there was nothing in the play. After winning the diamond, West switched to a heart, and now many players would simply draw trumps and go on to the next deal, but Sharif won the heart in dummy and ruffed a diamond at trick three before drawing trumps. Do you see

It was to cater for East holding all the clubs. If that had been the case, then, after the king of clubs, declarer can

continue with a club to the ace. forcing East to split his hon-

Now, declarer has three entries to dummy (two spades and a heart), to reduce his trump length to the same as East's and finally to be in dummy at trick II after cashing the third spade, to lead a plain card through East's remaining J x towards his A 9.

That way, Sharif would have made the contract if East had started with a 3-3-3-4 shape, with J 10 x x of clubs. If you go through the play, you will find that ruffing a diamond at trick three is essential. If declarer plays trumps at trick three, he is an entry short to carry out the trump

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

Biblicals ELEAZAR

b. A false prophet

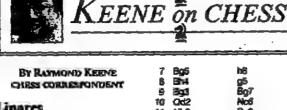
c. A concubine

a. An Apocryphal prophet c. A rebel against David NAHASH a. An Ammonite king

a. A revolting wanderer b. A forefather of David c. Saul's second wife ZACHARIAS a. An elderly father

c. A prophet

b. A doomed general ger. Can you do as well? Answers on page 42 Solution on page 42



In the first round of the Linares tournament, in Spain, Garry Kasparov defeated Vishy Anand, the world No 2 Michael Adams, Great Britain's representative, beat Alexei Dreev, of Russia.

Chinese chess

The Chinese have their own version of chess which, with more than 400 million regular players, is probably the most popular hoard game in the world. The main differences from chess as we know it are that pawns capture as well as move forwards in straight lines, there is a river which divides the centre of the board, there are two pieces known as elephants and catapults, which are unknown to western chess, and both kings are confined within a restricted fortress. The game is highly tactical. This tactical basis has proved excellent training for Chinese players who wish to join the international arena. Several Chinese champions, grandmasters and masters are on tour in western Europe. The following game is a Chinese victory from Geneva. White: Peng Xiaomin

Black: Lasarev Geneva, January 1997

Sighan Defenor 2 N/3 3 d4 4 Nxd 6 Be3

g5 Bg7 Nc6 Bg6 Nge6 t5 Rb6 Ne4 Cor7 Cot5 Kd7 Coe6 BB6 Nc4 Patro Patro Patro H80+

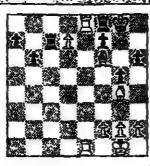
Diagram of final position i e

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

4. By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Lautier — Anand, Linares, 1994. Here, White could play 1. Rod8+ Kx68; 2. Re6+ Kg7; 3. d8/Q Bud8; 4. Rxd8. emerging with an extra piece. However, Black would then be able to make life difficult thanks to his connected pawns on the queenside. White, therefore, found something stron-



of game in New Zealand the fortunes of the New Zealand Test team, and reshaping the structure of the domestic game, has been entrusted to a man whose back-

cricket as it is possible to Chris Doig was - still is an opera singer, and not just any opera singer. He belonged to the Vienna State Opera for eight years, has sung at La Scala, Milan, and he is the only cricket administrator to have taken on the role of Otello. Yet he is now the chief executive of the New Zealand Cricket Board for Cricket Inc., as it calls itself) and, until the

ground is as far removed from

again, cricket is his priority. It has been a remarkable life by any standards, blessed by happenstance and coincidence. He has been a gifted amateur sportsman, English teacher, full-time singer, professional administrator and now executive. At the comparatively youthful age of 48, his

career is far from over. "I went to Vienna in 1974," he said. "I had an opportunity to take two years off from teaching at Auckland Grammar School, primarily because loved singing German ieder.

"I went as a baritone and studied at the Music Academy where Anton Dermota, the principal tenor at the State Opera, heard me and said, you have a marvelious voice. but you are a tenor".

"After two years, the Staatsoper offered me a job, but I came home to New Zealand. I walked straight off the plane into a staff meeting at Auckland Grammar and, after one period, I resigned, In Vienna, I had immersed myself in Schubert and Richard Strauss and I returned to hear people debating the cost of tea

and hiscults. "I went in to see the headmaster, John Graham, and resigned on the spot. He was Michael Henderson meets a man who is used to accepting challenging roles

CRICKET: FORMER OPERA SINGER RELISHES BEING CENTRE STAGE.

Doig's life takes turn as voice

an All Black, for whom the arts were anathems. He liked the sportsman in me and abhorred the artist, but he agreed to keep the job open for me for two years, so I could go back to Vienna knowing I had something to fall back on. I spent the next eight years as an international singer and

was perfectly happy, apart from missing New Zealand. "In 1984, I came home because my father was dying and I looked round and

thought: Why does anybody not live in this part of the world? Martin Hadlee, Rich-

burgh, which was hased in Wellington. current job."

up. My daughter was having lessons with his chap's moth-

er, who was a singing teacher. She had asked Rachel how I was doing and Rachel said: 'Oh, he's ied up with singing. Within five minutes, her son had rung me in Sydney. I had four years of engagements booked up, but when they offered me the job of chief executive I pulled out of them." Despite his achievements in the opera house, he was happy to throw it all in. "As a kid,

'Rugby gives a distorted view of New Zealand sporting prowess'

ard's brother, was on the board of the Christchurch Arts

The day before I arrived back in New Zealand, the director had resigned. I walked out on a contract I had signed and set up a professional opera company in Christ-church. Australian Opera offered me some roles and after four years of that I was headhunted to take over the New Zealand International Restival, rather like Edin-

When the board asked me to take it over, it was losing NZ\$500,000 and we turned that into a profit of NZ\$600,000. All the time, I was still singing in Europe and in 1992 I resigned and went back to singing full-time. I was happy doing that until the end of 1995, when I got my

How he got it is also highly unusual. "I was singing Peter Grimes at the Sydney Opera House and this man rang me sport was a passion. I was far more talented a singer than I was a sportsman. I was just below national standard at hockey, and a club cricketer. but I stopped playing sport at 25, so to be involved with it at my age is a boon."

One of the amusing conse-quences of his new job is that he has appointed Graham, the former All Black and once his headmaster, as the manager of the New Zealand team. "We

think that in Steve Rixon. Lee

Doig: varied career

we have an extremely good

base to build on." He doesn't deny there is much work to do. The history of New Zealand cricket shows that we have not had a structure to nurture players from youth level to the too. Our first-class cricket is not of the highest standard and there is a vast difference between that and Test cricket. Replenishment of the team has been

difficult "Rugby gives a distorted picture of New Zealand sporting prowess. In virtually every code. The only major country where it is pre-eminent is South Africa. A population of 3.5 million is a deficiency in cricket, but not in rugby.

"In addition, there is an innate inferiority complex, enhanced by our geographical position. It has as much to do with a mindset as with ability. This is a small country with an underdog mentality."

But things are changing.
"We have built an elite, live-in cricket academy on the campus at Lincoln University, near Christ-church, which we feel is as good as any anywhere. There are 14 players, who have excellent facilities and studies leading to full tertiary

qualifications. "We are sending some of them to the Australian Academy to work alongside their 🕻 lads, to let their personalities develop and to get some of that Australian brashness rubbing off on them. We hope that every one of them will come

Rixon has invited Richard Hadlee and Martin Crowe to get involved with the national side, and we're hoping to involve the All Blacks as well. By mixing with successful sportsmen, we hope it will

/ MGDON

back thinking 'I'm as good as

those guys". build up the players self-

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

HE MAY be the highest-rated way the race unfolded. "Five chaser in the land, the winner of two King Georges and some people's idea of the natural successor to Desert Orchid, but at Ascot yesterday the uncomfortable truth about One Man was revealed. Quite simply, he is a llawed

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champion.
Although the Gordon Richards-trained grey was beaten only a length by Strong Promise in the Comet Chase, the defeat was comprehensive and served only to confirm the doubts held for more than a year by those not fully paid-up members of the One Man fan

Having been jumped off in front by Richard Dunwoody, the 74 on favourite stayed there until he was outjumped by Strong Promise four fences from home. From that point he never looked like getting back in front of a novice chaser officially two stones his inferior. Even worse, he did not look as if he truly relished

the opportunity to fight back. One Man had every chance when meeting the final fence on a perfect stride as Strong Promise blundered, but even then he could not raise the necessary effort to bridge the gap. It seems that unless One Man can win on the bridle he is vulnerable, as his backers discovered to their cost in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last March

As the inquest into what went wrong began, some suggested he is gutless and does not relish a battle. Others' pointed to the way he jinked as. Strong Promise took the lead and suggested he tried to run out. That is probably unfair and Richard Dunwoody insisted afterwards that One

Man had battled once headed. Norman Williamson, the rider of Strong Promise, gave an interesting insight into the race.

fences from home I saw Richard [Dimwoody] slap One Man down the shoulder and not a lot happened. I knew my horse would get the trip so I

kept pressurising all the way. "I went on and gave mine a smack turning for home. I was in front too long and pecked at the last, but I was surprised how he got himself going so quickly. He proved he is very tough as well as very good. One Man is a great traveller but he just doesn't seem to find a lot off the bridle."

. The favourite's tame performance leaves Richards and John Hales, the owner of One Man, in something of a quandary as they contemplate the Queen Mother Champion Chase and the Gold Cup at Cheltenham

I honestly don't know where we will go," Richards said. "I would love to say I am going for gold or the other way. I know he will go to Aintree for the Martell Cup! but there is only one Gold Cup. That might be the way he goes, I am still tempted."

Durwoody said: "My im-mediate thought was that we might be stretching it a bit by going for the Champion

Whatever the failings of One Man, the race confirmed the talent of Strong Promise, whose next target is likely to be the Queen Mother Champion Chase. Geoff Hubbard's six-year-old finished more than 50 lengths behind One Man in the King George at Kempton but Chris Kinane, assistant to Hubbard, said: "He just wasn't right that day and was sick for ten days after Kempton."

Coral cut Strong Promise to 5-1 (from 25-1) for the Champion Chase and removed One Man from the betting on the



Strong Promise, ridden by Williamson, lands the Comet Chase at Ascot yesterday from One Man and Sound Man, right

THUNDERER

1.30 Willy Ster. 2.00 Goldenswift. 2.30 Forest Ivory. 3.00 Flapjack Led. 3.30 Herristta Howard. 4.00 Orchestral Suite. 4.30 More Death Transpart. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:

Our Newmarket Correspondent: \$.30 Henriette Howard Carl Evana: 4.00 Orohestral Suite.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

1.30 GLATTON CLAIMING HURDLE

(92,231: 2m 110yd) (20 runners)

| 101 3-65 ONCE MORE FOR LUCK 20 (D.F.G) Miss M. Revelley 6-11-12 | Debotes | Decouple of the Company | Debotes | Debotes | Decouple of the Company | Debotes | Debote

2.00 WHITLESEY HONCES HANDICAP CHASE

9-2 Bayling Stat. 5-1 Carbon Gold, 8-1 Saldensett, 7-1 Cayones Lad, 8-1 Paddet Romen, Uncle Algy, 10-1 The St Abust, 12-1 others. 2,30 SIDNEY BANKS MEMORIAL HONICES HURDLE

(E7, 181: 2m 44 110yd) (8)

301 1-11 ASSTMENT 45 (0,0.5) J Formald 6-11-4. A Dimension 98
302 2441 CAPLITIO BRISANTE 9 (7) P Webbur 5-11-4. A Thomson 57
303 1162 EDREDON 6LEU 15 (67-5.5) May H Bishe 5-1-4. J Calculu 71
304 112 EDREDON 16 LEU 15 (67-5.5) May H Bishe 5-1-4. J Calculu 71
305 6-11 FOREST MORY 55 (0,0.5) D Michigae 5-1-4. A Magnin 58
305 6-11 FOREST MORY 55 (0,0.5) D Michigae 5-1-4. A Magnin 58
305 732- MORES SANA 316 6 Habord 9-1-4. R Johnson 93
307 121 SPRING 6ALE 21 (7-5) O Stemand 5-11-4. J Deboxin 93
308 0 THRITY BELOW 15 J Old 8-11-4. G Uphne 64
64 Agistment, 7-2 Farest forcy, 6-1 Emisson Statement, 7-1 allege.

3.00 FARCET FEN RAHIDICAP CHASE

2-1 Distinction, 7-3 Papinsk Lad, 5-1 Kings Charg, The Lauter, 8-1 Returned Lad, 10-1 Florable, 12-1 Colord Gold:

3.30 ниятиновой воёв саяв наивисар ниявые (Qualities: 94,799; 2m 5f 110yd) (12) -101 450- SHET GOW 301 (F.C.S) M Plot 10-11-10

202. 23-0 MANAGER 12 (S) 1 Financial 9-11-2. R December 9-202. 45-9 LUCKY BLIE 19 (C.S) 5 Earle 10-11-7. A Abundre 90-11-9. LUCKY BLIE 19 (C.S) 5 Earle 10-11-7. A Abundre 90-11-9. LUCKY BLIE 19 (C.S) 5 Earle 10-11-11-9. A Abundre 90-11-9. LUCKY BLIE 19 (C.S) 10-11-9. LUCKY BLIE 9-4 Norbal, 4-1 Harristo Howard, 6-1 Algregam, 6-1 Allendor, Tim, 18-1 Lian De Juness, 12-1 Sand Chin, 14-1 assess.

4.00 DUCK'S CROSS HOVICES HONTERS CHASE | Particular | 12 | Particular | 12 | Particular | 13 | Particular | 14 | Particular | 15 | Particular

3-1 No John 7-2 America Liby 5-1 Pictory Sap, Decircital Scilic, 7-1 State Candia, 8-1 Smaled Of Success, 18-1 Green's Van Sopen, 14-1 where

4.30 LONG STANFON HANDICAP HUNDLE (22,863: 2m 110yd) (12)

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: \$ Kalifornit, 3 minus: from 8 runners, 37.5%, J. Jeffenson, 4 from 11, 36.4%, R. Bufor, 21 from 52, 33.5%, Mrs M. Rondey, 58 from 53, 30.5%, Mr Pipe, 5 tone 19, 26.3%, D. Caudelle, 9 from 55, 25.7%. COLUMN TO CARROLL S WITH THE STREET OF THE S

Ascot

Going: good to firm, firm in places Going: good to firm, firm in places
1.50 (2m Al hole) 1, Thying Fledder (P. Henley, 18-1); 2, Carn Cen Cherife (9-2); 3, Hendey, 18-1); 2, Carn Cen Cherife (9-2); 3, Hooded Hawk 100-30 lew (put) 10 mm. NP: Kitmington 14. (8), M. Roberts, Tote: £24-00; £4-00. £1-90, £1

£4.60, CSF £9.58. 3.05 (2m.31 110)(d.ch) 1, Strong Promise (N.Wijiamson, 10-1); 2, One Men (4-7 fav); 3, Sound Men (9-4), 4 fan. 1), 101. G Hubbard, Tote £8.30, DF £2.80, CSF;

Placepot 52,117.40,

Quadpot £498.10.

Ludlow

Going: good to firm, firm in places Golngt good to firm, firm in places

1.40 (2m hole) 1, High in The Clouds (5 Myrne, 8-11 km); 2, Taleshalb (5-2); 3, Hory. (7-1), 13 mm. NR: Knot True, Prototype. 2, 41, 7 Forester. 10ther 51 70; 100, 01.30, 92.90 DF: £1.30, 110: £3.30; (55° £2.45)

2.10 (3m ch) 1, Lucley Botter (C O'Dwyter, 100.30); 2, King's Shaling (25-1); 3, Inch Emparor (8-1), Three Philosophers 4-5 ker (ur), 8 m. 91, 191, K Balley, Totte 54.30; £1.20, £2.80, £1.90. DF: £15.90. CSF: \$57.12.

240 (2m 5f 110yd hole) 1; Scottish Wedding (R Massey, 7-1); 2; First Crack (7-2); 3; Fieur De Tal (9-1); Stac-Potaloth 11-4 (sev. 8 ran. 2-9); 3:51. T Well, Tote: 155.50; 21.30; 21.90; 24.30. DF: 215.90. CSF 229.08; Tricest 2202.46. 3.15 (2m 4i chi 1, Coolree (D Bridgweler, 11-4); 2, Spanish Light (14-1); 3, Norse Reider (11-8 law), 4 rain, 29L 21L P Nicholie, Toles (4-20, DF (7-60, CSF)

3.45 (2m hole) 1, Tango Man (C Maude, 10-1); 2, Ruth's Gemble (50-1); 3, Dr Dave (20-1); 4, Just For A Resson (6-1). Softine Bridge 5-2 (sv. 16 ran. NR: Qualeer Watz. 393, 91, R Prica. Tone 16.40, 12-60, 24-10, 53-20, 51-70. Dr. £161-30, Irio: not won (pool of £1,182.74 carried towers to 2.20 at Kelso today) CSF (24-25,09. Tricant 58,688.24 Soft for 8,400gns. 4.15 (2m 4) oth 1. Beau Dandy (Ar T Tricast: 59,658.34 Sold for 8,400gns.
4.15 (2m 4) ch) 1. Beau Dandy (Mr T Marks, 5-6 fay); 2. Hennerwood: Oak (33-1); 3. BBy Baitopin (7-1), 6 ran. NR: Silevenemon Aist (%), dist. Miss C Saunders. Tote: 61 70; £1.50, £4.40. DF: 617.30. CSF: £20.78.
4.45 (2m 5t 110yd hole) 1, Drum Baitis (A Thomkon, 8-1); 2. Tartate Lodge (12-1); 3. Benfleet (7-2), Minske Darky 5-6 fay (rd. 8).

Jackpot 27,100.00 (0.20 winning side-sis, pool of 53,480.90 carried libraried to Hurringdon today). Hurtingsion today). Placepost £133.90. Oursignst £80.30. Wolverhampton Bohip impant

1.50 (7) 1. C-Harry (M Wighten, 11-2); 2. Plan For Profit (13-8 lav); 3. Fayrn (6-1); 5 ran, Shind, 3. R Hollinshead, Toler 210.60; 22.90, 21.60 DF 226.20, CSF; 213.99 2.20 (im e) 1. Cambaplarly (f G McLauchin, 11-2; 2. Zatopek (8-1); 3. Zhe Lane (9-2 fee), 9 gen. 32, 226, 10 hitmotien. Tota: \$5.60; \$1.50. \$2.50, \$2.00. OF: \$28.10. fibr. \$44.70. CSF

Precapot: 278.90. 5 - Quadrot: £16.70.

1.50 Billy Bushwacker, 2.20 Mister Trick: 2.50 Relitse, 3.20 Seeking Gold, 3.50 Adametic, 4.20

1.50 weatherby's bulletin magazine MADDEN HURDLE (£3,022; 2m 110yd) (16 numers)

BLLY BUSHMACKER 124F Miss M Rendey 6-11-5. BLOOD BROTTLER 10 J Barciny 5-11-5. CARLING E MANDETES ST 40 1 Barcing 5-15-5. 2 SMM PLOTO DESTREY 10 3 SPECIA 1-1-10 M PROPERTY 2 1-10 M PROPERTY 2 10 M PROPERTY 2

2.20 BET WITH THE TOTE MOVICER HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier: £3,664: 3m 1f) (15)

1 TUPS MAUSHIY RITURE 23 DLG.S) J J D'HAND 6-11-10... A Racha 2 2013 COVERDALE LUIE 10 GF.S) Mas 5 Smith 10-11-7... R Gunut 3 DG-1 MAJOHITY MAJOR 65 (G,S) P Chestamonth 6-11-1 4 2PP2 TOUSH TEST 9 6-25 No. 4 Genetidency 1-11-1 SF Ryen (5)
6 3P4 ASK NE LATER 12 (5) No. 5 Benetidency 1-11-1 SF Ryen (5)
6 3P6 COLV WATHER 18 (6) P Chestrooph 9-10-0 A S South
6 3P6 COLV WATHER 18 (6) P Chestrooph 9-10-0 A S South
7 -PIF MISTER TRICK 10 (6) Lung 1-10-1 B Genetic
8 52-P ANSLEO ASAN 19 Vers 14 Revelop 8-10-0 P Reven
9 4AU CORPORAL KIRCKNOOD 51 (81) M Tenterior 7-10-7

4-1 Hagetty States, 5-1 Averyan Agent, 5-1 Countries Lava, 7-1 Misser Trick, 8-1 Laugh Test, Malyrray Mages, 12-1 orans. 2.50 FORRESTERS HANDICAP HURDLE

1 - 056 LUCKY REVENCE 2 (8,P) D Nicholts 4-9-10 Imm Whoults (7) 9
2 0007 DOUBLE COCKN 2 (8,7) D Nicholts 4-9-0 L Deltoid 1
3 - 220 THICK AS THEVES 5 (1)8.F. (6) R Notopons 5-4-2 J Francing 5
4 - 052 NORTY 5 GRAS HOVE 5 (8,C,P) K hosy 4-9-12 D 8-25.6
5 - 301 ALLST NIS DAMACET 9 T Norgions 4-9-4 S Sociation 4
6 - 0003 NaP EXPRESS 5 (8,0,F,G) & Norm 4-9-4 G Sociation 4
6 - 0003 NaP EXPRESS 5 (8,0,F,G) & Norm 4-9-4 G Sociation 4
7 - 54-3 DAMACETA 23 (9,0,0,3) F Norm 7-9-3 T Whitese 3
8 - 048 SUTT FACTORS 14 (9,0,P) K Norm 1-9-3 T Recent 77 7
9 - 456 LUCKE FERT LAD 5 J Bridge 5-7-10 F Norton 8

3-y Chaplin Open. 4-4 Thick As Thirus, 5-1 Allsters Thurses, Imny's Goth Hint, 6-1 Imp Bruces, 7-1 Burdy Throngo, Dhanters, 18-1 others.

2.25 WISTERIA CLAMMIG STAKES

1 BY PRIMIT 471 (CDESS) Lati Hostopin 18-9-5

5) (No. Book 34) (Miles, 7); Physical, 92 Gregori, 18-1 (all Rep., 14-1 alless.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSPER: C Thombin, 3 witness bun 11 names, 27.3%; D Michally 9 from 40, 22.5%; Land Mentingdon, 45 from 212, 21.2%; P Hysioth, 17 store 88, 19.3%, M Johanson, 46 from 229, 17 1%; P Roberty, 11 from 77, 15.5%; M Johanson, 46 from 229, 17 1%; P Roberty, 11 from 77, 15.5%; M Johanson, 17 John 19.30; At 75%; W Ryan, 25 from 146, 17.9%; S Whateselt, 35 from 223, 16.7%; W Ryan, 25 from 146, 17.9%; S Whateselt, 35 from 223, 16.7%; D Markhonen, 17 from 113, 15.10%; M Wighton, 14 from 115, 12.2%.

-4 Palitics, 7-4 Taibone, 7-2 Willia Specific, 5-1 Tailesh Toda

GOING: STANDARD

(£2,484: 5f) (9 runners)

Draw: 5F-1M, Low Numbers Best

1.55 PAINTROSE HANDICAP

BLINGSRED FIRST TIME: Huntingdon: 1.30 Batleship Bruce Lingfield Parts 1.55 Lucky Revenge, Suite Factors 2.55 Harmon in Red. Kelsos 3.50 Rubislaw 2.55 JAPORECA HAMEDICAP

3.20 ISLE OF SKYE BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY HANDICAP CHASE (\$3,241: 3m 1f) (9)

9 3P4P JEROEE 19 (F,S) 8 ENBAR 9-10-0...

(\$2,316; 211) [10/0] (11)

7-4 Callie Shen, 11-4 Sactory Gold, 6-1 Olf The Bro. Acajau III, 8-1 Slavey Burin. 12-1 The Tousian, Janoba, 25-1 select.

3.50 BELTANE PARTNERS HANDICAP HURDLE

11-4 Deal Image, 7-2 Maple Say, 8-2 Figuresy Rises, 5-1 Adamskie, 18-1 Con Luke, Inglotomic, 12-1 inhers.

S-2 Supremer Sount. 4-7 Metr. Marx. 5-1 Streetly Lat. 5-1 Browner, 7-1 Meetly Hymn, 10-3 People Charles, 16-1 Stephaspher, 28-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS: 7 Dalpethy, 4 menter; bons 9 sunner, 44.4%; Mrs. Jano Storry, 6 lean 14, 42.9%, Mrs. M Reselvy, 35 lean 118, 29.7%; F Adapsky, 3 mon 11,27.73. Mrs. JD Goodinthee, 13 lean 50, 25.0%, M Harmound, 23 lean 102, 22.5%.

JOCACIS: P Nover, 45 witness from 139 rides, 35 5%; Mr C Storey, 6 from 17, 35.3%; R Genily, 10 from 45, 22 3%, M Molacey, 13 from 65, 29 6%, P Carterry, 6 from 30; 20.0%, A Dobbit, 27 from 138, 19 4%.

4.20 MOET & CHANDON MOVICES HURDLE (\$2.996: 2m 6f 110yd) (14)

INGETELD PARK 1.55 Double Oscar, 2.25 Ultra Beet, 2.55 Spaniard's Mount, 3.25 Quiet Arch, 3.55 Miliroy, 4.25 Love Me Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.55 Hermony In Red. 3.55 MILLROY (nep).

3.25 CLEMATIS HANDICAP (£3.436: 1m 2f) (9)

7 D-DI LAW DANGER 8 (G) T Main 4-8-70 T Williams 7 2 920- REHOWN 61 (CD.F.G) Lord Hustington 5-9-8 D Harrison 6 3 28-1 DANGES WITH HODIVES 21 (CD.G) D Breach Davis 5-9-8 DR NetCabe 5 ## BI-2 MUNNYS HAPPY 7 (F) Miss & Bellevey 4-9-5 ... D R McCabe 5

BI-2 MUNNYS HAPPY 7 (F) Miss & Bellevey 4-9-5 ... D Holland B

BI-2 MUNNYS HAPPY 7 (F) Miss & Bellevey 4-9-5 ... D Holland B

BI-2 MUNNYS HAPPY 7 (F) Miss & Bellevey 4-9-5 ... D Roambell (S) 1

BI-2 MUNNYS HAPPY 7 (F) Miss & Bellevey 4-9-5 ... D Roambell (S) 1

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4.40 Country Cousin

2.40 MILLERSFORD (nap) Carl Evens: 4.10 Double Silk.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

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2.40 PREMIERE NATIONAL HUNT AUCTION NOVICES HURBLE

(£11,200: 2m 6f) (11 numers)

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3.40 BILLINGHAM HANDICAP HURDLE

(\$2,826; 2m) (5 runners)

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4.10 SOMERSET HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,119. 3m 11 110yd) (6 numers)

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4.40 WINCANTON STANDARD OPEN CLAIMING NATIONAL HUNT FLAT

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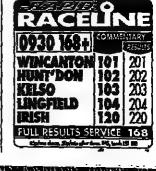
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RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Henrietta Howard (3.30 Huntingdon) Next best: Hay Dance (3.40 Wincanton)

☐ Rough Quest, the winner of last year's Grand National, will not race again this season, his trainer, Terry Casey, con-



Underdogs savage Cup ambitions of big five

BY DAVID MADDOCK

THE Czech Republic in the European championship final, unseeded players in the Wimbledon final, unfancied teams in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals, and now this. The past year has been the year of the underdog and it seems the FA Cup is following the same

The picture for the fifthround draw became clearer yesterday as fourth-round ties played and what is clear is that the traditionally strong Cup teams will not be making the final this time.

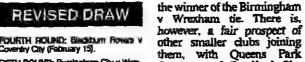
For the first time in 22 years. in fact, not one of the "big five" Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal, Everton and Tottenham Hotspur - will be represented at Wembley. Added to that are the early exits of Newcastle United's expensively-assembled side and Aston Villa, seven times winners of



Cup, many of the strongest FA Carling Premiership clubs have already fallen by the wayside. The top four in the division are out, leaving Chelsea as the highest-placed team remaining. Unsurprisingly, Chelsea, whose only win in the competition came in 1970, have been installed as the 3-1

Leeds United are second favourites at 11-2 with Wimbledon, but what price a new name on the Cup? Seven teams remain in the competition with ambitions of lifting the trophy for the first time.

Birmingham City, Wrex-ham, Chesterfield, Watford, Middlesbrough, Queens Park Rangers and Leicester City are all hoping it will be them, with



Rangers and Bradford City

There is also still the pros-

pect of the FA Cup Final

becoming a repeat of the Coca-

Cola final, with three of the

four League Cup semi-final-ists still following the Wem-

Beaten I-O by Wimbledon at Selhurst Park on Tuesday

night, the holders, Manches-

ter United, may have failed in

their attempt to reach a fourth

successive final and Eric

Cantona may have finally

been on the losing side in the

FA Cup after four years, but

the Premiership leaders still

have plenty of interest in the

competition. Cantona spent last night hoping that Manchester City against Wat-

ford was a draw, because a

The last final to be contested

only three of the 18 clubs still remaining in the draw yester

day afternoon are kitted in the

again, maybe it would be wise

replay would be held on fifth-

bley trail on two fronts.

perhaps the most hopeful.

FIFTH AQUIND: Birningham City v Wien-ham: Chesterield v Notingham Forest; Leeds United v Portsmouth; Manchester City or Wattord v Middlesbrough; Wimble-don v Queens Park Rangers (8) February 15); Bradtord City v Sheffield Wednacies; Leasser City v Chelses (noth February 16); Derby County v Blackburn Rovers or Covertry City (February 26).

Leicester City perhaps owed a little bit of luck, given that they have been beaten finalists on four occasions.

Blackburn Rovers, who have not lifted the trophy since 1928, look a particularly attractive bet at 10-1, but they must first emerge through two ties against Premiership opposition - against Coventry City in and Derby County - to reach the quarter-linals. There is another all-Premiership tie in the lifth round, Chelsea visiting Leicester.

It means that at least one lower division club will be



Neil Sullivan, of Wimbledon, dives to thwart Andy Cole, of Manchester United

Middlesbrough or Wrexham. Harford in line to take Albion post

BY RICHARD HOBSON AND RUSSELL KEMPSON

AFTER being turned down at least three times since dismissing Alan Buckley two weeks ago, West Bromwich Albion will, at last, unveil their new manager at a press conference this morning, with Ray Harford thought to have accepted the

Harford, dismissed as manager of Blackburn Rovers last October, met Tony Hale, the Albion chairman, before the Nationwide League first division match against Birmingham City on Tuesday night. Afterwards, the club's directors convened for a special meeting.

Despite taking on a coaching post at

Reading recently, Harford has hankered

after a return to management. He declined to comment on Tuesday night, but said last week, on applying forma for the job: "Albion is an ambitious club - the kind I would like to manage. There is so much potential for success Hale has been rebuffed by Bruce

Rioch, the assistant manager of Queens Park Rangers, John Toshack, the manager of Deportivo La Coruña, and Chris Waddle, who opted to remain as a player with Bradford City. However, Hale said: 'It is not like the recent situation at Manchester City, with respect to them. Most of the people we have spoken to would love to come to Albion, but have had to turn us down for personal

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough

manager, is considering an appea against the booking of Emerson, his Brazilian midfield player, near the end of the 1-1 draw away to Wimbledon on Saturday. Robson believes that Graham Barber, the referee, may have misinterpreted Emerson's action when he threw down the ball and was booked for dissent. "He was only showing his frustration over Phil Stamp not passing the ball to the unmarked Juninho," Robson said. "It is ridiculous to be booked for having a go at a team-mate."

Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, is holding a get-together at Stratford today for the 14 England-based players in his squad for the World Cup qualifying match against Estonia in Monaco next

Supporters backing Warnock's return

صكذا من رلامل

By Russell Kempson

NEIL WARNOCK, the former Plymouth Argyle manager, could be reinstated at Home Park if attempts to take over the Nationwide League second division club are successful. A group of supporters is trying to raise funds to buy out Dan McCauley, the Plymmissed Warnock on Monday.

The fans are forming a consortium of leading businessmen from the West Country and need to find the £3 million necessary to purchase McCauley's controlling interest. "It has been obvious from the supporters' reaction to Neil's sacking that they want him back," Chris Heaynes, a spokesman for the group, said. "While we can't guarantee that, we will do all we can to see that their wishes are

gyle has to be looked at by all supporters. Someone has to start the process and we are reviewing what we can do. We have identified a number of avenues which we intend to pursue and would welcome the involvement of anybody who might have something to

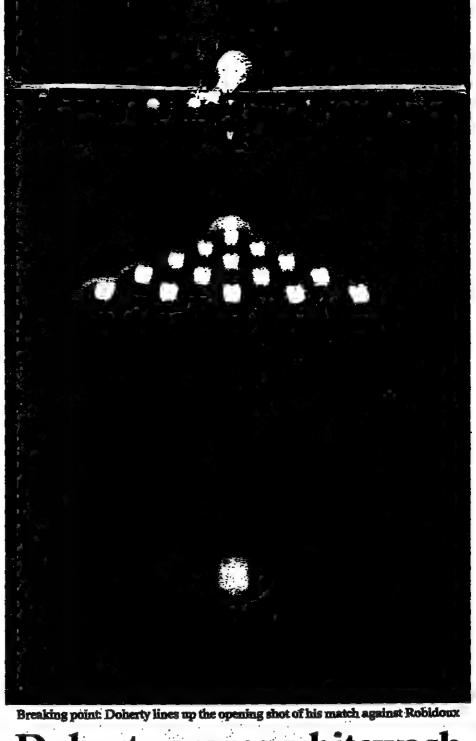
Warnock led Plymouth to promotion from the third play-off final at Wembley, but his relationship with Mo-Cauley subsequently soured. He was informed of his

The Football Association will wait on a report from Paul Taylor, the Cheshunt referee, before deciding what action to take over an incident during Lincoln City's 3-1 home defeat against Wigan Athletic on Tuesday night.

Terry Fleming, the Lincoln midfield player, was booked by Taylor in the 38th minute and, seven minutes later, appeared to collect a second caution, which should have led to his dismissal. Taylor, though, took the name of Tony Dennis, another Lin-coln player, and Fleming stayed on the pitch.

"Our record shows that we cautioned the No 8 and No 4 of Lincoln in the first half." Taylor said. "A number of people have since suggested that the No 8 was, in fact, cantioned twice. If that is the case. I would have to accept that it is mistaken identity, but, until I view the video of the game, I will not alter the

The FA believes that it was not Fleming who deliberately gave the wrong name but Tay-lor who made the error. "We will wait for the report," an FA spokesman erday.



Doherty erases whitewash

By PHIL VATES

KEN DOHERTY, whitewashed 6-0 by Steve Davis in the last 16 of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre 12 months ago, yesterday reached the quarter-finals of this year's. event when he defeated Alain Robidoux 6-2.

times, notably with runs of 57... 104 and 58, plus a 92 in the eighth and closing frame that could easily have been developed into a 134 total clearance had he not missed a straightforward black off its spot with the highest break of the tournament at his mercy.

His most telling contribution, though, which sapped the resolve of the French Canadian, was the 83 clearance with which he accounted for the fourth frame.

Robidoux, the only player with the distinction of having earned a place in at least the last 16 of all five worldranking events contested in the 1996-97 season to date, had won a marathon 44-minute third frame and led 44-0 in the next when he misjudged the angle of a pink to a micidle pocket.

Doherty, only successful in one of his previous six matches at the game's premier invitation event, will now pla John Higgins, the world No 2, or Mark Williams, the Grand Prix champion, for a place in the last four.

"Steve [Davis] played su-perbly last year and I was annihilated," Doherty said. "I was totally dumbfounded in fact and I have to admit it was on my mind today to a certain extent. After something like that, you can't help wondering how you'll fare."

The iron will of Davis, even when he is struggling, was in evidence when he battled for four hours 40 minutes to defeat Alan McManus 6-4 in the most dour of encounters on Tuesday night.

"Alan is the best player I've beaten this season. At times. I felt something like a snooker player again, Davis, attempting to capture his first title since the Regal Welsh Open of January 1995, said. "I stuck

The match was in total contrast to the drubbing that he had administered to Doherty on his previous visit to Wembley. Davis accounted for the first frame with a 97 clearance and compiled an 84 break in the fifth. Those prolonged contributions apart, it was a fragmentary affair, dominated by numer ous tactical exchanges and frequent unforced errors.

Davis, making a record seventeenth consecutive ap-pearance at the Masters, is expected to become embroiled in an equally hard-fought contest when he meets Peter Ebdon in the quarter-finals

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There are more than 500 restaurants listed in our 1997 Eat out for £5 Restaurant Guide. To get your £5 meal you need a voucher plus two differently numbered tokens entitling you to take up to five

friends, paying £5 per head. Bookings must be made in advance quoting The Times £5 offer; you should also confirm what your £5 meal will be. The offer is valid until

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CHANGING TIMES

FA backs **Brighton** agreement

THE Football Association yesterday welcomed the announcement of a compromise between supporters and the board at Brighton and Hove Albion, the ailing Nationwide

League third division club. Mediators brought in at the request of Lancaster Gate in an attempt to find a solution to the club's travails said yester-day that "full and frank" discussions between the club and supporters had succeeded in reaching an agreement.

Brighton supporters have not attempted to hold back their indignation at the chairman, Bill Archer, and chief executive, David Bellotti, as the Sussex club lurched into

Paul Samrah, a supporters' spokesman, was banned from the Goldstone Ground by Archer after his forceful protests on behalf of a consortium put together by Dick Knight, a local businessman.

The compromise will see the han on Samrah lifted, the west side of the Goldstone being opened in stages from this week and Archer and Bellotti. both hounded from the directors' box in recent months. showing "no overt presence". The CBI-backed Centre for Dispute Resolution added that all parties wished to continue with the dialogue and

of an early solution". In a statement, the FA said: "We are particularly pleased that all sides have seen the merit of supporting measures to reduce the tension off the nitch on match days. We share their concern that any further disturbances may prejudice the club's position in the Football League and be a possible threat to public

"emphasised the importance

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2 Second division: Pus V manual City 3
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COMBINATION: Premier division: Bitston
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Crockerhill 3: Ramagase 3 Greenwich Beauten 1
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTRES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cacton Town 0 Tippine
United 2 Falsemham Town 0 Westpech Town 0: Harwich and Parkeston 4 Hadfelgh United 0; Sudbury Wasdarers 4 Felbasius P and 1 5; Woodbindge Town 1 Newmarkst Town 2: Linus CRIT Dettied COUNTRES LEAGUE Premier division 2 Cestrology 0; Marison Backstone 1 Barnland 2 St Neota 1 Eyresbury 0; Vicologe 0 Kempston 0. O. NORTHERN COUNTES EAST LEACHE-Premier Children: Hudinel Town 1 Dendby United 2, Malthy MW 2 Astried United 0; Theolety North Family United 0; Theolety North Feat round: Manualler United 10; Life 1; Met 3 Montpellier 3 (set. Montpellier win 3-1 on one) SPANSH CUP. Faulth mund, according: Composite 2 Addition Model 3 (Addition win 5-2 on organism)

RASKETRALL HOCKEY PEPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: RAF 4 Cambridge University 2 (at RAF Hallon); London University 1 Army 2 (at Motspur Park attentioned Szylin, Soodlight faure). INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Norway 4 Cap-

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Chartota 115 Minnesota 101; New Jersey 111
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7-UP TROPHY: Semi-Sinal, Sint leg: Cheeter Jets 52 Laters 56; BIATHLON

CSPRIE Roundle: World characterships: Merr: Team event (10km): 1, Belens (O Ryschenicov, P Insilio, A Popov, Charburin): 27ther 22 4sec (tipen lag): 2, Germany 27:47 3 (2); 3, Potent 28:15.8 (3); 4, Norway 28:23.0 (2); 5, Stoverse 28:25.0 (1); 6, Finland 28:29.8 (1) CRESTA RUN

BARON OBTUSEN CUP: 1, A von Bahler und Helbach (Ger) 153 73sec; 2, M Hoen (GB) 154.80; 3, C Vesdorpi (Ger) 155.08,

One-day international South Africa y India EAST LONDON (hinter wore tosset) South Africa beet inche by sk wickets

S C Genguly run out 👊

A D Jackie c Cronje b Klusener
R A Singh not out Extras (to 7, w 3, rto 1) Total (5 wids) 232 S. Josh, A. Kumble, J. Sifrath and B. K. V. Pranad did not bill. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-117, 2-150, 3-171,

4-176, 5-215. BOWLING, Politick: 10-2-26-0; Kallis 6-0-34-0; Klusener: 10-0-59-2; Donald: 10-1-38-1; Cronje 9-1-37-0; Adams 5-0-32-0. SOUTH AFRICA

Estres (5 1, 6 7, w 2, nb 3) Total (4 wids) 236
S M Pollock, 10 J Richardson, L Viusaner,
A A Donald and P R Adems did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-134, 3-142,
4-1001

4-90.

HOWALING: Smirath 10-0-50-1; Present 9-2-1-43-1; Kumble 10-1-35-1; Shigh 6-0-31-0; Joshi 10-0-48-1; Tendulkar 3-0-17-0; Jadeja 1-0-3-0.

Man of the match: \$ C Genguly and G Kersten. Umpires: W.A. Diedricks and D.L. Orchard. Unpres: W A Dedricks and D I. Orghard.
SUPERSPORT SERIES (first day of hard:
Bloomischain Free State 401 and 297-9
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not cut). Metch deater. Parti: Boland 204
sind 237; Eastern Province 282 and 181-4
(M Searnish 76). Eastern Province best
Boland by six wedness.
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ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NELL: Presburgh 6 Vancouver 4; St. Louis 1 Destroit 1 (01); Ottows 4 Boston 3; New York Islanders 4 Anaheim 3; Bullatio 1 Philiadelphia 1 (01); Tampa Bay 2 Phoenso 0.
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RUGBY UNION TOUR MATCH: Bath 18 Osego 31. SNOOKER

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AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Toberham (20), PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE Premier division: Leads v Liverpool (at Hafilax Town FC, 7.0).

ovision: Leeus v Liverpool (at realization PC, 7:0).

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Snickers Under-19 Trophy: Hewert Righ School, Norfolk v Palmers College, Essex (2:0); St Cuthberts High School, Northumberland v York College, North Yorkshire (1:30). English Goodyeer Under-16 Trophy: Newtrill Green, Greets Marchester v Yepol Bryn Alyn, Clywd (2:0). English Gids under-16 Virnito Trophy: Upplinghent College, Lelcester v Frestand, Derbyshire (2:0); Bowditch, Stropshire v Bishop Heber High School, Chestine, (2:46); Westgele, Hempehire v Greendown Community, Willishire (2:0). Thombern, Hampehire v Mounts Bey, Correval (9:30). Essex Johnson Cag: Newtran v Barking (McAillian Stadium, 4:45).

OTHER EPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leopards v Birminghern (7.0), 7-LP Trophy: Semi-finel, first leg: Sheffield v London (7.30). ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Brac Notinghem (80); Ayr v Shi Besingmokin v Mancheste (SNOCKER: Bareon and Hedges Mas

MPERIA, toly: World Cup short-course event (wirners and British): Ment: Free-style: 100nt: Sies (Alg) 49,048.c., 400nt: E Brenibits (#) 3min 44,119ct, 100m back-shroke: M Hents (GB) 53,95ect, Brenibits stroke: STOT 1, Micros (Ga) 52,00ect, Brenibits: STOT 1, Micros (Ga) 52,00ect stroke: M Herris (329 53.05eec. Breest-stroke: 50m; 1, J Kruppe (529.02ec; 2, R Macien (56) 28.20. 200m; 5 Lopukhov (Ruse) 2min (56,7aec. Butterriy: 50m; b Ushlov (Ruse) 2min (58,7aec. 200m; D Parkratov (Ruse) 1min 54,37eec. 400m; nadley: M Wouda (Holl) 4min 10.28eec. Womer: Freestyle: 50m; L Martinciale (Berbados) 25 28eec. 200m; C Poli (Critica) 1min 58,37eec. 200m; Poli Grain 53,4feec. Because (10 min 10 min

ISIC Author Water a water set First round: J Window (Austral) by A Measurem (f) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; S Testud (fr) by P Hy-Boules (Carl) 4-6, 6-9, 6-3; B Fistons (Gen) by E Water (Gen) 7-5, 6-0 ret; N Touchet (Fr) by G Fizzonini (f) 6-4, 7-5; A Carisson (Swe)

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain.

LTTLEWOODS: Trable chance (tree chidends only): 24pts 22,092.15, 23 219.55, 22 22.80. Hell-time result (meximum 21pts): 2109.05, Four draws 23.75, 10 homes 2353.15. Five arrays 277.80. ZETTERS: Trable change (firme dividends only): 24pts 5242.55, 23 51.86, 22 07.30. Eight sweys: 24pts 5286.60, 23 51.40, 22 07.30. Four draws 55.00. Eight homes 515.00. Four ways 54.20, Super 7 5988.00. Lucky numbers 6 25 13 27 12 1.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

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RUGBY LEAGUE: SETTLED ST HELENS HOLD CUP TRUMPS AS WIGAN STRIVE TO KEEP TUIGAMALA

Clash of giants provides perfect start

IT IS appropriate that perhaps the most critical season in rugby league should begin with a climax. With marketing forces going into over-drive to make the second year of the Super League a success, Machiavel-lian forces were inevitably felt to have plotted the early meeting of St Helens and Wigan Warriors in the Silk Cut

Challenge Cup.

Quirks of the draw have dictated, however, that the two great rivals collide in the Challenge Cup at least every other season. Salford Reds obliged St Helens, wirners of the competition last year as part of their double with the inaugural Super-League, by eliminating Wigan in the fifth round. In ten Cup meetings since 1977, including two finals, Wigan have not lost to St Helens.

Yet the fourth-round tie on Saturday is essentially different. Both sides are starting from cold, but St Helens are the holders, they have home advantage, which is important, and, despite Bobbie Goulding's transfer request, they appear more settled.

ly, there are newcomers to bed in and ingsters to blood, while two of their four players back from rugby union, Henry Paul and Gary Connolly, have required operations.

How long Valaiga Tuigamala. another returning from union, will be remaining in league is another issue to be resolved. Until he hears otherwise. Tuigamala insists he is staying, but defeat on Saturday could prompt Wigan to pursue further a reported £750,000 deal with Newcastle, of rugby union's Courage Clubs Championship second division, but the repercussions of such a sale would be highly damaging, not least to

Wigan's Super League campaign.
There are few instantly recognisable stars in league and the marketing people fear their biggest asset could be whipped away from them. The shut-ing of the stable door on union by introducing a longer season could be too late in Tuigamala's case, especially if Wigan see his sale as a way of keeping Jason Robinson from the clutches of the Australian Rugby

PRINCIPAL DATES

February 8-8: Sili. Cut Challenge Cup tourth round. March 2: First and second divisions start. March 14-18: First round of Bitones Super League matches. May 3: Sik Cut Challenge Cup Irisa (Membley) June 6-22 and July 18-Aug 3: First and second starts of world cuto championship matches. September 21 or 28; Stones Premiership and Divisional Premiership finals (Old Trating) October 11: Model cuto championship final Scales.

The Central Park ground is the subject of a possible takeover and a bid by a supermarket chain. So far, it is a case at Wigan of "jam tomor-row". With the Challenge Cup now effectively a curtain raiser - the professional season starts on Saturday and Super League on March 14 losing to St Helens would not be the disaster that it was 12 months ago at Salford. If not yet as prestigious as a Wembley appearance, there are richer rewards to be won in the nine

How long might it be before the new world club championship be-comes the ultimate prize? It is, surely. the ultimate tournament, uniting the

Super League teams in trans-global competition. Such is the standard in the southern hemisphere, it would be a surprise were any English side to reach the final in Sydney in October. Initially, it is the chance to learn from the best that matters most.

The domestic game was handicapped last year by the court battles between the ARL and Super League and back-to-back seasons that left people sared. With fewer competing attractions, notably the European football championship last summer, clubs will be disappointed if crowds do not rise.

Clubs that would sup with the devil rather than promote themselves are waking up to marketing principles -hence the rash of nicknames and sponsorships. Opportunities presented by the forthcoming season are manifest. Fail this time and a return to the game's parochial set-up is probably inevitable.

From the world club championship, Great Britain will better assess their chances against Australia in November's three-match home series. the ridiculous situation keeping lessyn Harris inactive at Warrington is resolved. A solution surely can be found between Warrington, asking a prohibitive £1.35 million for the Great Britain stand-off half. Harris wanting to join St Helens and Goulding asking

to leave Knowsky Road.

If it is to lose Tuigamala, the game needs a talent as prodigious as that of Harris to show off. Few among the influx of overseas players off-loaded because they were surplus in Australia are recogniseable. Their numbers have virtually killed off the domestic transfer market - the reason Steve Molloy, the Britain prop, was forced to re-sign for another season in the first

division with Featherstone Rovers.

A good Cup run is especially important for momentum into the Super League campaign. Bradford Bulls appear strong again, as do London Broncos, whose fresh Australian contingent is a cut above the rest. Leeds Rhinos look well equipped but first blood between St Helens and Wigan on Saturday will best dictate how the new season goes.

THE SECTION OF THE PARTY OF

Pankratov denied world record swim

DENIS PANKRATOV, the Russian swimmer, has been stripped of the short-course 100 metres butterfly world record that he set at a World Cup meeting in Imperia, Italy, yesterday. Pankratov, the double Olympic champion, eclipsed the old mark of 52.07sec, set by Marcel Gery, of Canada, in 1990, by clocking 51.93sec, but it was later revealed that no drug testing was carried out during the event, which means that Gery's time remains the world-best

It is the second time that Pankratov, who set the short-course 200 metres butterfly record of lmin 52.64sec on Saturday, has lost a world record in this manner. Last year, in Paris, he lost a world 100 metres butter-fly record when organisers also failed to carry out drug

At the same meeting in Imperia, Mark Foster, of Great Britain, won the 50 metres freestyle in 22.14sec and Susan Rolph the 100 metres individual medley in 1min 02.00sec.

Britons battle on

TENNIS: Mark Petchey, the Great Britain No 4, yesterday completed one of his best victories for months when he beat Dennis van Scheppingen, of Holland, the No I seed, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 to reach the quarter-finals of the ATP Challenger event in Wolfsburg, Germany. His success was followed up by Chris Wilkinson, the Britain No 3 from Southampton, who defeated Dirk Dier, of Germany, 7-6, 6-4 and also moved into the last eight. It is the first time that Petchey has reached the quarter-finals of a Challenger tournament since July, and has dropped to No 207 in the world rankings. Petchey, 26, from Essex, will today meet Cristiano Caratti, of Italy, the

Pugsley shows way

RIFLE SHOOTING: British match rifle shooters continued their run of successes to win the Woomera Trophy by 26 points over 1,000, 1,100 and 1,200 yards on the Campbell Town range in Tasmania, in turbulent winds that veered rapidly. At times, coaches called a halt to shooting for as much as ten minutes to allow the winds to settle. The British were never headed at any range, but, because of their tactics, found themselves shooting in more disruptive conditions than the Australians, John Pugsley, from Devon, again proved to be the leading Briton with a top score of 217.23.

Yates back on track

CYCLING: Sean Yates will return to track competition, after a 16-year career in continental road-racing, when the new season starts on Good Friday at Herne Hill, south London. He will be picking up where he left off, competing in the ten-minute pursuit, which he last won in 1979 while preparing for the 1980 Olympic Games. The main opposition to Yates enjoying a winning return should come from Rob Hayles. who has won the London pursuit for the past two years and rode in the Great Britain team at the Olympic Games in Atlanta last year.

Sri Lanka take spinner

CRICKET: Sri Lanka have included Muttiah Muralitharan, the controversial off-spinner, in a 15-member squad for their tour of New Zealand this month. Arjuna Ranatunga will captain the team to play two five-day Test matches and three one-day international matches. Muralitharan's technique was questioned by John Reid, the New Zealand coach, during Sri Lanka's tour in 1995. During a tour to Australia last year, two umpires no-balled the player, forcing Sri Lanka to drop him. Sri Lanka claim he suffers from a condition that does not allow him to straighten his arm.

Semi-finals beckon

TENNIS: Great Britain is guaranteed a semi-finalist at the women's satellite event in Sunderland after Lorna Woodroffe and Jo Ward won their second-round games yesterday. The pair meet today in the quarter-finals after Woodroffe, the No 8 seed, defeated Alina Tecsor, of Romania, 6-3, 6-2, and Ward knocked out Tatiana Poutchek, from Belarus, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

☐ Martin Lee pulled off an unexpected win when he beat Andrew Foster, his fellow Briton, 7-6, 5-7, 7-6 in the first round of the men's indoor satellite event at Bramhall.

BASKETBALL

Rodman allowed to return for Chicago

By Our Sports Staff

DENNIS RODMAN, the colourful Chicago Bulls player. has been told he can return to action by the National Basketball Association (NBA) after missing II games through suspension, his punishment for kicking a cameraman at the courtside during the Bulls' game against Minnesota Timberwolves last month. The threat of banishment from the league hangs over him if he

offends again. Rodman reached an out-ofcourt settlement with his victim, Eugene Amos, agreeing to pay him \$200,000. His suspension will cost him more than \$1 million in salary and bonuses but, as a gesture of appreciation to his fans. Rodman has said that he will play the first 11 games of his return for free, donating his salary to

"Il assorted charities". "I'm glad I can come back and play like I do again." Rodman said. "I could say I'm sorry until I'm blue in the face and it wouldn't prove anything. But I'm going to play for free. That shows that it isn't all

about money." When asked if he was

returning with a clean slate, Rodman said: "I just live life day-to-day. I'm not going to change the way I am. My goal is still to contribute and be on one of the greatest teams of all

Rodman had been ordered to undergo counselling during his suspension, but, after accepting his case for reinstatement, David Stern, the NBA commisioner, said: "I am satisfied that Dennis recognizes that his conduct in the Minne-

sora game was unacceptable. he does not plan to change the way he plays the game, he will conform his conduct on the playing court to acceptable standards and he knows that any further incidents of this nature may end his career in the NBA."

Rodman, whose body plercings, tattoos, rainbow hairstyles and cross-dressing have drawn as much attention as his rebounding prowess, has been suspended nine times since 1992 and three times since last March. He has led the league in rebounding for the last five years.

THE SANYO CUP ENGLISH CLUB CHAMPIONS **WORLD XV** AT TWICKENHAM Saturday 24 May 1997 Kick Off: 3.00pm

RUGBY UNION

Howley to face fine for breach of contract

By Our Sports Staff

ROBERT HOWLEY, the Wales scrum half, faces a £2,000 fine for breaching his Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) contract. The WRU confirmed yesterday that it is investigating claims that Howley wore clothing during training last week before the international against Ireland bearing the logo of a rival company to Reebok, the official WRU kit

The contract that Howley has with the WRU states that all national squad members must wear Reebok equipment while on official international training and media duties. Earlier this season, Leigh Davies, the Cardiff centre. was fined £2,000 for wearing a rival manufacturer's tracksuit '. top during a television inter-

Cardiff, Howley's club, said yesterday that it was considering withdrawing from the

The final legal documentation for the agreement between the Rugby Football Union and the leading clubs was signed. yesterday at Wolverhampton. John Richardson, the union president, said: "All in the game may now rejoice in this agreement which heralds the new rugby future of unity and strength of purpose."

Anglo-Welsh Cup. Gareth Davies, the Cardiff chief executive, said: "Everyone has had a gutful of this competition. I don't think we will be playing any more of our games, al-though nothing is final at this

The competition has failed to capture the imagination of the clubs or the public and, with a mounting backlog of fixtures, it seems increasingly likely that the Weish clubs will pull out. Andrew Beer, from Dunvant, said: "We've been prepared to run with the Anglo-

meaningful fixtures, but the games have proved to be anything but meaningful." an expanded Heineken Cup next season, which includes pool matches being played on a home-andaway basis as well as cup and

international weekends, in ad-

Welsh concept in a bid for

dition to a Courage Clubs Championship first division of 12 teams, there will be no room for an Anglo-Welsh competition. The tournament appears

Jo Maso, the France manager, dismayed at the loss of two of his players for the game against Wales on Saturday week, has called on referees to take stronger action against foul play in French club rug-by. "I feel as if I have been punched in the face myself." Maso said after Thomas Castaignede the centre, and Philippe Benetton, the Hanker. sustained broken jaws in club matches recently.

There were further problems for France yesterday when Alain Penaud, the Brive stand-off haif, ruled himself out of the team to play Wales. Penaud has not fully recovered from the ankle injury he collected during his club's victory over Leicester in the Heineken Cup final last

Brive have confirmed that their proposed match with Auckland, the Super 12 champions, will go ahead on February 23 after Bernard Lapasset, the French Rugby Federation president, withdrew his objections to the game, with the proviso that it went ahead at a neutral venue. That will be either Nantes or Lille.

Andrew Harriman, the captain of England's World Cup Sevens winners four years ago and now the team manager, has opted for continuity in the 1997 event in Hong Kong next month, choosing seven of his former colleagues in a training squad of 21.

Lawrence Dallaglio will captain the side, with the only absentees from 1993 being Damian Hopley — who has a long-term injury — and Justyn Cassell Dallaglio will expect to be included today in the full England team to play Ireland in Dublin on Saturday week.

in Dublim on Saturday Week.

BNGLAND SEVENS SQUAO: Besies: A Adobnyo (Beth, N Beel (Northermoton), M Cam (Beth), M Dewson (Northermoton), A Greenstock (Wespa), W Greenstock (Wespa), J Reytor (Orrell), S Rober (Maspa), P Sampson (Wespa), D Scully (Welesiach), J Sielghtholme (Beth), P Somman, Control (Beth), P Somman, D School, R Heisenstock, P Jeickine (Nespa), P Scrivener (Nespa), P Scrivener (Nespa), C Sheesby (Wespa).

Alphand's hopes follow fickle course could finish in fifth place after securing only one win during

zerland, was a surprising pace-setter after practice for his career. the men's downhill event at the alpine skiing world championships in Sestriere, Italy, yesterday. However, even he was unimpressed by the early indications of what might be in store in the competition on Saturday, joining criticism of the course led by the pre-race favourite, Luc Alphand, of France, who was in second

Cavegn, 26, who has not finished in the leading three in A new run is being used for the championships and it was shortened slightly for the second training session yesterday because of high winds at the top. That might partly explain how an outsider such as the a World Cup downhill event. agreed. "The entire downhill course is very slow. It turns too much," he said. "A world championship should get the

best skiers on the podium and not give chances to skiers who aren't so good."

Nevertheless, there were dissenting voices. Atle Skaar-Alphand and Kristian Ghedina, of Italy, his main dal, of Norway, the winner of the super giant slalom on Monday, said that one of the rival for the championship. both said that the course was leading competitors would still too slow and contained too many turns. This track doesn't please me at all, it is There are some big curves and jumps on the lower just too slow," Alphand, who, like Ghedina, has won three part, but maybe there are too many turns at the top - but it's World Cup downhill competinot wide open. The three or four favourites for the champ-ionship are still the favourites." tions this season, said.

Patrick Ortlieb, of Austria, puts criticism of the course out of his mind during his practice run at Sestriere yesterday

During practice yesterday. Cavegn recorded a time of lmin 39.45sec. Alphand finished in Imin 39.60sec, but clearly did not push himself towards the end. Hannes

erer, both from Austria, finished third and fourth

respectively.
The British challenge was led by Andrew Freshwater, 23, who was in 23rd place after recording a time 1.7sec slower than Cavegn. Graham Bell, however, had a disappointing run, leaving him 2.33sec behind the leader.

Audun Groenvold, of Norway, who finished eighteenth in the super giant slalom at the start of the two-week championships, escaped unhurt from spectacular crash. He lost his balance over the final jump and landed on the tail of his skis before flipping over as he crossed the finish line.

SPORTS POLITICS: PLANS TO SHIFT GRANT EMPHASIS AWAY FROM GRASS ROOTS

piace.

Lottery to fund stadium schemes

By JOHN GOODBODY

LOTTERY grants, which previously would have gone to grassroots activities, will increasingly be available for the building of spectator facilities for sports such as cricket, rugby union, rugby league and even horse racing.

The English Sports Council (ESC) has decided that a higher priority should be given to the redevelopment of stadiums and it will discuss with the national governing bodies how this can be achieved. An ESC spokeswoman accepted that the baiance between providing local tors would change, adding ties is likely to make substan- safety and spectator accomfacilities and those for specta-

"but to what extent we have yet to determine". However, it is probable that

the amount of money for grassroot activities will also increase because the introduction vesterday of a mid-week National Lottery draw is likely to increase funds available for

The spokeswoman stressed that stadium redevelopment would depend on community use "We are not looking at funding a facility which is only going to be used a couple of times a month and we are not in the business of funding profit-making organisations," she said. Any aid to spectator facili-

tial inroads into Lottery money because construction is so expensive compared with the funding of local activities: The Sports Council is also going to consider ways to help

those smaller football clubs which have been badly affected by a decline in the income of the Football Trust. The Trust, which distributes money for the benefit of the game, relies on money from the football pools, which have suffered since the start of the National Lottery...

"It is essential that discussions take into account the overall income generated by which it is reinvested into

modation for clubs in the lower divisions of the Football League and non-League clubs," the spokeswoman said. To increase the viability of improved facilities, further consideration also needs to be given to increased groundshare arrangements between different clubs and different

vided £144 million for FA Carling Premiership and Nationwide League first divison clubs to meet the requirements of the Taylor Report. The Government accepted in 1992 that smaller clubs need not huild all-seater stadiums. which have become mandatory for the leading clubs.

The Trust has already pro-

BADMINTON

Baddeley takes tough stance on discipline

promising players have been dismissed from the national training squad and told to buck up their ideas by Steve Baddeley, the coach.

Nathan Robertson and Ian Sullivan, both 19, have been severely reprimanded by Baddeley, the former European and Commonwealth champion, who is particularly concerned about late nights, drinking and absence from

squad sessions. We can't achieve without 100 per cent commitment in competition, training, attitude and lifestyle." Baddeley, who was appointed England direc-

TWO of England's most tor of elite play six months promising players have been ago, said. There is a culture among a significant minority of players which is counterproductive to world-class achievement and we have to

do something about that

Baddeley has omitted Robertson, an England international, from the elite squad "indefinitely" and has stopped all his funding to tournaments. Sullivan, an under-21 international, has been dropped from the talent squad for February and had his funding to tournaments stopped for the month of

YIGUETS Adults: C30 & C15, Under 16 years; C7, Family Tickets: C30, (2 adults & 2 under 16 or 1 adult & 3 under 16, School Parties: C7 per head president of thickets include 1 free adults, Justicible by post from the TICKET OFFICE, RUGGY FOOTBALL LINGON, Please unclose cheque payable to RFU) or by Credit Card, adult prices only, from Ticketmaster on 0171 344 4446.

Marathon men with the world at their feet

ners coming out of Africa. We have learnt to expect them to be at the front at the great games and the mass marathons. So, when we hear that Josia Thugwane, of South Africa, is coming to compete in the Flora London Marathon, it seems natural that he should stride in as reigning

Olympic champion. But it was not always so. In the Fifties, on the tracks and roads of Europe, African distance runners anpeared rarely and were regarded as a bit of a joke. In events where such quintessentially British qualities as disci-

pline, strength of characreckless front-running of the Africans was seen as naive and ridiculous.

The Europeans believed they had perfected the art of marathon preparation. It involved a high volume of well-disciplined training, a sophisti-cated, scientific approach. It was not for nothing that one of the leading inter-war marathoners was known as "Treadmill" Cliff Bricker.

in those days, Africa had a great

yet when Dave Bedford

I might be thinking about

tunnelling his way deep be-neath Crystal Palace athletics

track to stop the bulldozers

moving in, but, you never

know, Swampy might get a call eventually. Bedford has

always been gimmick-mind-ed, so how about one last

record attempt at the Palace track to mark its going and

during his seven-day A30 pro-

test, improves human mole

record to 8 days 16hr 13min 22.47sec. Electronically

Since the Crystal Palace arena opened, in 1964, it has

witnessed 21 world records,

some of little consequence,

others, like Bedford's 10,000

metres mark on Friday, July

13, 1973, exceptional. Now the

venue may not survive into

next year as a centre for

and due out in the next

formight, is expected to recom-

mend that international track

and field should give way to

Bedford, a Swampy of the

highlight the travesty? Swampy, staying under-ground longer than he did

timed, of course.

distance runner, one of the finest and champion endurance run- most influential of them all - but he was white. His name was Arthur Newton and before he embarked on the career of a globe-trotting professional athlete, he did most of his running in South Africa and what, in those days, was still Rhodesia.

Newton won the famous Comrades Marathon - 54 miles between Durban and Pietermaritzburg - five times and set a series of amazing

world bests for longdistance racing. He once covered more than 152 'Rarely seen miles in 24 hours - a record that still looks and a bit impressive 65 years on. of a joke' He was a deep thinker

and a wise writer about his sport. He knew his ter and cool reserve were at a Africa and he knew his running, and premium, the chullient and at times time has proved the correctness of almost every opinion he held.

But, in one observation, he was completely wrong. Like so many of his generation, he believed that the Africans would never make great distance runners. Writing in the Thirties, he said: "The average Bantu or Zulu is far and away a more capable distance walker and runner than the average white man, yet he has no sort of hope when the latter



gets into real training." Try telling that to Thugwane.

The high point of the methodically-trained European marathon runner came with Emil Zatopek. With yearround dedication never seen before. Zatopek churned out thousands of miles and turned himself into a gold medal-winning machine. When he won the marathon at the Helsinski Olympic in 1952, it was his third victory of the Games.

But trailing behind Zatopek was a man who hinted at the African running revolution to come. He was Alain Mimoun, an Algerian, although in the Fifties that meant he ran for France Eventually, Mimoun beat Zatopek, in the 1956 Olympic

David Powell tracks the history of a venue threatened to be lost

King joins bid to keep Palace open

marathon in Melbourne - with his old rival in sixth place.

Four years later, a man trotted down from the highlands of Ethiopia. Abebe Bikila, stick thin, blackskinned, a silent and dignified member of the palace guard of the Emperor Haile Selassie, was an unknown no hoper at the start of the Rome Olympic marathon. He had a personal best of 2hr 21min, but he

that he ran without shoes on his feet. Bikila. the mysterious Abyssin-**'Champions** ian, seemed to float out of the past - but his times belonged to the tumbled out of Africa' future. In two hours and 15 minutes he changed African running for ever.

The idea that an unknown Ethiopian could so easily defeat the best long-distance runners in the world in the hardest race of all sparked the hopes and dreams of every African boy. His legend spread far beyond his homeland and kindled the enthusiasm for running that in less than a decade swept over East Africa.

Soon, the champions were turnbling out of Africa - from Kenya, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Djibouti. In the 1968 Olympics, five Africans

Since then, they have hunted in packs for records and medals. The London . Marathon alone has seen such runners as Dinsamo, Salah, Mekkenon and Wakihuri.

. Every so often, Africa throws up a new champion to kick the legend forward. The latest is Thugwane. He is the new Bikila. His origins are just was so African, so much an outsider, as unlikely, his achievements just as

amazing. He is the man from a corrugated tin shack with a bullet scar cut across his face. He is the man who speaks in his tribal language, Ndebele, with his tongue clicking in the back of his

mouth. But he is, above all, the first black man from South Africa to win a gold medal in the

Like Bikila, he will serve as an inspiration. The difference is that, when Thugwane runs in London, he will be met, not with the disbelief that greeted Bikila's triumph four decades ago, but with the delight and respect that sport now reserves for the runners who come out of Africa.

JOHN BRYANT

Reflections on harder times

Document: The Letters in the Mirror. Radio 4, 7.20pm.

The driving force of all journalism is the belief that great stories can The driving force of all journalism is the belief that great stories can originate from humdrum assignments. The same principle applies in other areas of life, which is why people spend hours in junk shops in the hope of finding something special. Tonight *Document* tells the story of Liz Barnes and her Dutch insband, who bought a mirror in a London junkshop. When the mirror broke, a collection of letters written during the Second World War were revealed. They told the tale of a Dutch family, the father incarcerated for heing Jewish. This is remarkable enough, but when Liz Barnes went to Holland to pursue the story, she was in for a real shock.

Analysis: Shop Til You Drop. Radio 4, 8.00pm.

This is a somewhat hackneyed theme which is redeemed on this occasion by having a remit which goes beyond the shores of Great Britain. The argument that the consumer society has gone too far has been heard before, so has the consequential argument that consumerism has promoted the individual at the expense of collective values, thus undermining and possibly destabilising society. Assignment refreshes the subject in two ways: by examining the extent of consumerism in less developed societies, where individual wealth is just beginning to threaten collective values, and by trying to extrapolate present crends into a picture of how the consumer society might develop.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00em Radio 1 Breeklast Show 9.00 Pearing Sassion, with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamaco 9.00 Collins and Maconie's Hit Parade, includes Univer-selly Chetenged 10.00 Maris Rudcibs, live from Manchester 12,00 Cleins Surgess 4.00em Clive Watten

RADIO 2

6,00em Sarah Karmody 7.20 Wales Up To Wagan 9.20 Karn Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stawert 6,05 John Dunn 7.00 Fm Sonyi Haven't A Clue. With Humphrey Lytishton, Benry Cryer, Greene Gerden, Tim Brooke-Taylor and the late Witle Rushton (†) 7.30. Desid Alian 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Teamagers in Love. A new series in which Rendel Lee Rose looks through the doc-wap archives (1/3) 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05em Serve

RADIOSLIVE

S.00etr Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.36 The Magazine 12.00 Mickey with Meir 2.05pes Ruscoe on Files 4.00 John Inventible Nationwide 7.00 Netes Extra 7.35 Nentron at 90 (33) 8.00 Inside Edge, with Rob Bonnet 9.00 SportsAmerica 9.00 SportsAmerica 9.00 Sportshop, Adrian Galdberg took at the protect business 10.00 Meets Talk. on After Hours — Early Call 2.05

TALK RADIO

5,00mm Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7,00 Paul Ross 8,00 Scott Chisholm

WORLD SERVICE

As times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30mm Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shell 7.30 Network UK 8,10 Words of Feith 7.30 Network UK 8.10 Words of Fasts 8.15 Composer of the Month 8.45 Health Malters 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Sports International 9.45 Sports Roundup 19.30 BSC English 98.45 Off the Shell 11.30 Meridian On Screen 12.05 per World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Assignment 2.05 Culsook 2.30 Multirack 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 From Cur Own Correspondent 3.30 Network UK 4.15 Month 17 Today 4.30 BRC English 4.45 Correspondent 3-30 Network UK 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 Business 5.45 Sports Roundup 5.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Fath 7.30 John Peel 8.85 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Books 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.10 Talle Rive 11.15 Early Varsions 11.30 Ed Stewart 12.30 Ed Stewart 12.30 Ed Stewart 12.30 The Wonderful Adventures of blary 5.20 The Wonderful Adventures of blary 5.20 The Wonderful Adventures of blary 5.20 Ed Stewart 12.30 The Wonderful Adventures of blary 5.20 Ed Stewart 12.30 The Wonderful Adventures of blary 5.20 Ed Stewart 14.30 Ed Stewart 15.30 Ed St

CLASSIC FM

4.00mm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Miles React
9.00 Henry Kafly 12.00 Susannah
Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto.
Chopin (Piano Concerto No 2 in F minor,
Op 21) 3.05 Jernie Crick 7.00 Classic
Newsnight, with John Brunning 7.30
Sonata Parry (Moth Sonata in D major,
Op 167) 8.00 Evening Concert. Egar
(Imperial March); Liszt (Piano Concerto
No 1 in E fiet); Komgold (Symphony in F
sherp, Op 40) 10.00 Michael Mappin
1.00em Salv Peterson

6.00mm Russ 'n' Jono's Breaklast Experience 19.00 Grahem Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Cleik 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 19.00 Mark Forest 2.00mm Randel Lee Rôse

6.00am On Air. Bach (Concerto MV108th Schumann

BWV1060); Schumann
(Cherbure, Scherzo and
Firste); Liszt (Maphisto Weltz.
No 4); Britan (Variations on a
Theme of Frank Bridge)
9.00 Morning Collection.
Includes Mozart (Sarsnade in
C minor, K398); Tarrega
(Recuerdos de la Athambra)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Mozart
(Das Veilchen, K476);
Debussy (Reflets dans l'Eau,
Images); Denisov (Peinture)
12.00 Cossposer of the Weal;
Octoghem
1.00pm Schubert on Stage.
David Owen Nomis Introduces
Alfonso und Estrella.

Allonso und Estralia The Bohemian Quartet. Selomon Quertet, Leopold

32 No 3) 4.45 Friends. Romancas for violin and plano by Clara Schumern and Joseph Josephin 5.00 Marke Machine (r)

5.15 to Tune, with Humphrey Carpenser, Includes Fauré minor, Op 109)
7,30 Brahms Centenary, Live from the Barbican, London.

Money Weish, ceilo. Variable on a Theme by Haydn, St. Antoni Chorate; Double Concerto in A minor 8.30 Vienna 1900, with Frank Whittord (r) 8.50 Part 2. Symptomy Mo 2 in D.

Alexander Berantschik, violin

Window (f) 8.30 Part 2.
Symphory No 2 in D
9.50 Between Heaven and Hell,
with Michael Kustow (4/5) (f)
10.15 Music Restored. Julie
Bishop, violin, Timothy
Roberts, harpsichord, and
Angels East, cello, perform
two violin sonesas by Michael
Christian Festing
10.45 Night Waves. An exploration
of the many entirems

of the many art forms increasingly becoming fixated with the human body Composers of the Week: 11.30 Composers of the Week London Plano School (r) 12.50em Jazz Notes

7.20 Document. See Choice (1/6) 4.00 Analysis. See Choice 4.45 The Red Hills of Home (5/6) 9.00 Does He Take Sugar? 8.30 Kaleidoscope (FM) (1) 9.59

RADIO 4 6.30 Jeremy Hardy Speaks to the Mation. With Debbie Islit 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Document. See Choice (1/5)

5.55eth Shipping (LW) 6.00 News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 9.00 News 9.05 Pace the Facts, with him Minin (A with John Waite (r) 9,30 The University (5/7) 10,00 News, in the Salan

10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour 10.30 Woman's Hour 11.30 From our Own Corres-

12.00 Hows; You and Yours 12.25pm Double Vision 12.55

12.25pm Double Vision 12.55
Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers († 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Let Them Call it
Jazz, by Jean Ritys
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope,
with Paul Allen
4.55 Shint Shiret Scope 1 1 to

4.45 Short Story: Score 1 for Yes, by Anne Jones 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping: Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News

9.30 Does He Take Sugar?
9.30 Kaleidoscope (FN) (f) 9.59
Weether
9.30-11.30 Test Metich Special
(LW) The second day of the
second Test in Wellington
10.00 The World Tonlight (FN),
with Robin Lustig
16.45 Book at Beditmer The
Pursuit of Love (FN), by
Nancy Mittord (SY10)
11.00 New Found Land (FN):
Rescue, by William Patrick
The second in a series of six
new plays by American
writers. With Lally Cadeau
11.30 Close Ups (FN), Nigel
Andrews talks to the actor
Robert Duvst (1/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late
Book: Zoo (FN) (4/5)
12.30-4.30 Test Match Special
12.48 Shipping Forecast (FN)

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.552m). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1275. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Jan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John Michemara.

international athletics. An indepent feasibility study. all the better for the sheer surprise of it. Only 3,500 speciators were present on the commissioned by Bromley council and the Sports Council first session of the AAA cham-

track in London.

mover behind the protest, says

that the loss of the training

facility would be no less devas-

tating than the pulling up of the outdoor track. "It is where

everybody lives from October

until March." be said. How-ever, Diane Lightfoot, Brom-ley council's marketing officer,

said yesterday that one option

being considered was for Crys-

tal Palace to be a regional

the most captivating of the 21,

pionships when Bedford, re-

lined up for 25 laps. The year

before, he had commanded the public to turn on their tele-

Bedford's world record was

centre for athletics.

WORD-WATCHING

ELEAZAR (b) Priest, son of Auron, and his successor. Auron's elder sons, Nada (b) Friest, son of Auron, and his successor. Auron's cider sons, Nadats and Abiha, were killed by God when they "offered strange fire" (that is to say, sucrificed in the wrong way) in the wilderness of Sinai. Their places were taken by Elenzar and his younger brother, Ithanur, Elezzar was the senior priest at Joshua's side when the Israelites crossed the River Jordan and when the Promised Land was divided. among the 12 tribes and the Levites at Shiloh. NAHASH

(a) King of the Ammonites. He was the first victim of the union of the Israelites under Saul. When Nahash attacked Jabesh-gilead and threatened to put out the eyes of its leading citizens, Saul raised an army of 330,000 and defeated the Ammonites. After this exploit, Saul was formally confirmed at Gilgal as king over all the tribes of Israel. ABIRAM

(a) One of the leaders of the revolt, led by Korah, against the authority of Moses in the wilderness of Sinai. These dissidents complained that the Israelites were taking far too long to reach the Promised Land Bowing with milk and honey. Their distoyal protest cost them their lives. For the earth opened and swallowed them up alive with all their him and settle. ZACHARIAS

(a) A priest with a wife, Elizabeth, both of them beyond the child-bearing limit. Officiating one day in the Temple, Zacharias saw the archangel Gabriel standing to the right of the altar. The angel told him that he and Elizabeth would have a son, the new Elijah. Zacharias asked for a sign to substantiate this unlikely event and the angel chiding him for his lack of faith, condemned him to be dumb until the child's birth. The child was named John — to be the Baptist — and

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE , Roll will force the win of at least a rook, eg. L . . . Rb7; 2. Reel and Black

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haired and playful, with immore circumspect this time.

Covering the first lap in 63.0sec, Bedford reached the pressive endurance - yet demanding regal respect once

pounding his way round a half-way mark in an absurdly track, is among the protesters fast 13min 39.4sec. Although launching a campaign today to keep athletics at the Palace. Tony Simmons was in close contact, he soon dropped off Under threat are the internaand Bedford ran the second tional track, the main stand 5,000 metres alone, apart from and the only indoor training the lapped Mike Tagg helping with a spot of pacemaking. Bedford's time, 27min 30.8sec, Richard Simmons, the British Athletic Federation coach for the South East and prime stashed 7.6sec off Lasse Viren's

world record. For the 12,000 crowd there the next day, most of whom were regretting their absence the night before, there was at least a chance to see the great man hot from his record. He turned out in the 5,000 metres. He finished sixth, but a bero.

Those present witnessed the embryonic talent of Steve Ovett, who set an 800 metres world best for a 17-year-old the precursor to a glittering career. Ovett, who improve the two miles world record at the Palace in 1978, is also expected at the campaign launch today.

The first Palace world cently injured and off training. record came in 1968. when Vera Nikolic, only 19, from Yugoslavia, thrilled the largest crowd to turn up visions and watch him win for a Women's AAA championship, defeating Lillian Board to set new 800 metres figures of 2min 0.5sec. On hearing that she had broken the record. Nikolic, set about kissing everybody within

> Ron Clarke, of Australia, expressed his gratitude for the Tartan track when a record Palace crowd of 9,000 saw him record in 1968. He recorded 8min 19.6sec for two miles. "That would have been worth 8:24 at the White City," he

> On one day in 1970, three world records were set at the Palace. Jim Alder ran lhr 31min 30.4sec for 30 kilometres, the Kenyans took the 4 x 880 yards time down to 7min 11.6sec and the Great Britain 4x800 metres women's team went into the world record books, with 8min 25.0sec despite finishing 15 metres behind West Germany. The Germans were disquali-

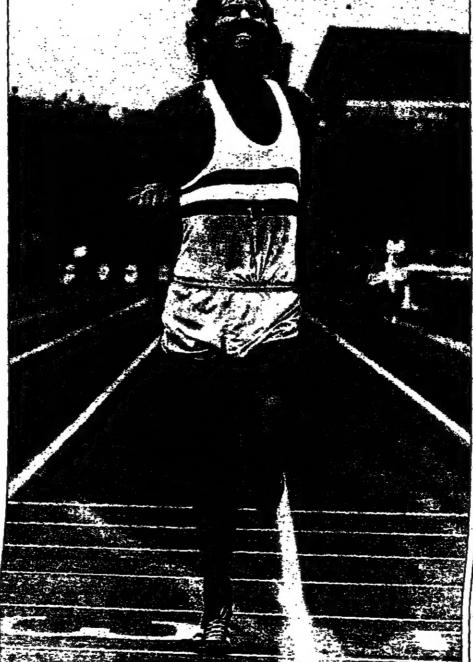
fied for a takeover loui. Brendan Foster's two miles world record of 8min 13.68sec in 1973 ranks among the best of the Palace records, for he ran aione for the last 4½ laps. Zola Budd, British at the time, is the only athlete to have set two individual world records there, the 2,000 metres finin 33.15sec) in 1984 and the 5,000

33.15sec) in 1984 and the 5,000

metres (14min 48.07sec) in 1985.

By 1983, record attempts
around the world had begun
to wear thin, so it was refreshing at the Palace on September

9 of that year to witness one of



Bedford out on his own was a familiar sight at Crystal Palace in the summer of 1973

last with Cram behind him

Going into the last lap, both

were in a good position for

their private duel and Cram

kicked from 350 metres out.

Ovett followed and a two-

metre gap remained constant to the end. A classic contest.

When the women's Euro-

pean Cup final was held at the

Palace in 1983, it produced one

of those rare combinations of

world record and classic con-

test in one. Tamara Bykova, of

the Soviet Union, and Ulrike Meyfarth, of West Germany,

both exceeded the high jump

world record, with 2.03 me-

tres. Meyfarth won, clearing 2.03 metres at the first attempt

Bykova, having had nine firsttime clearances while Meyfarth had recorded five failures, had to settle for second place because of her

one failure at 203 metres.

the greatest athlete versus athlete races in middle-distance history. So keen was the amicipation of seeing Steve Cram, the 1,500 metres world champion, facing Ovett, the world record-holder, that the meeting was a 17,000 self-out

even before it was confirmed take place.

The two watched each other with no care for what others in the field might be doing. Down the back straight on the first lap, Ovett was second to

Women's 800 metres: Vere Alkolic 2mm 00.5eed.
Men's 2 miles: Ron Clerke Brini 19.6eed.
Women's 4 x 200 metres: Great Britain Timin 33.8eed,
Women's 4 x 400 metres: Great Britain 3min 37.8eed,
Women's 4 x 400 metres: Great Britain 3min 37.8eed,
Men's 30 kilometres: Jim Alder 1hr 3min 30.4eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Jim Alder 1hr 3min 30.4eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Jayo Shrafi 9min 23.4eed,
Women's 400 metres: Jayo Shrafi 9min 23.4eed,
Women's 400 metres: Jayo Shrafi 9min 23.4eed,
Men's 10,000 metres: Dave Bedford 27min 30.8eed,
Men's 2 miles: Brenden Foster Britain 13.8eed,
Men's 2 miles: Steve Ovet 8min 13.8eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Great Britain 1min 31.57eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Great Britain 1min 33.15eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Cleat Britain 7min 03.8eed,
Men's 5 miles: Steve Ovet 8min 13.51eed,
Men's 4 x 800 metres: Cleat Britain 7min 03.8eed,
Men's 5 pole vastes Steve Bucket 5min 33.15eed,
Men's 5 pole vastes Steve Justin 5.00m.
Women's 5,000 metres: Zola Buckt 5min 33.15eed,
Men's 2,000 metres: Zola Buckt 5min 33.15eed,
Men's 2000 metres: Zola Buckt 5min 33.15eed,
Men's 2000 metres: Zola Buckt 5min 33.15eed,
Men's 5,000 metres: Zola Buckt 5min 33 n's 2,000 metres: Maricica Pulca Smin 28,6

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A concatenation of codes, cops and cons

he encouragement of others is a rare monve for teny-makers, which perhaps exis a rare motive for tellyplains why Hugh Whitemore's excellent Breaking the Code (BBCI) hilariously ended up last night under the rubric of the numeracy project "Count Me In". Any story less likely to inspire mathematicians is hard to imagine. True, the great Enigma codebreaker Alan Turing (Derek Jacobi) had glorious speeches about the reliability of numbers as opposed to the insoluble problems of real life; but since Turing ended up lonely and suicidal, if the queue for maths A level is longer this morning, I'd be surprised.

However, any excuse to get real, intelligent, fire-bucket drama onto-BBCI is good enough. This stage play from 1986 has been jumping up and down (alongside Ian McEwan's old film The Imitation Game), saying "But what about us?" ever since Robert Harris

brought out his novel Enigma, as if no one had thought of it before. Whitemore's play is an elegant piece, with a virtuoso tole for Jacobi, in which the contradictions of Turing - his frankness and his enforced secrecy — finally refuse to be contained in his genius. After the war (which wouldn't have been won without him, as he told a lover, quite matter-of-fact), Turing was prosecuted for his homosexuality, hence his suicide. His code, if you like, was broken.

Evidently the virtue of mathematics is that it always tells the truth. Thus, all the great moments in Breaking the Code involved the perils of veracity. Turing's would-be girlfriend Pat (Amanda Root) tells him she loves him. Big moment. "I'm a homosexual," he says, quietly. Another big moment. "I know," she replies. A terrific scene with Turing's mother (Prunella Scales) involves the same confession. But most crucial of all

6.00 Star Treit: Deep Space Nine (I)

7.30 First Sight: Dealing in Dealit Why have the media and politicians been slow to highlight heroin addiction among young children and instead focus on the threat posed by Ecstesy? (821) WALES: Disaster EAST: Metter of Fact MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST/SOUTH WEST: Close Up SOUTH: Southern Eve

8.00 Disaster in 1989 a couple set sell from Semuda for New York on a 37th sloop, four days out in the Atlantic the vessel began to sink and the couple were lorced to take to the leaking life raft (1) (8322)

8.30 Top Gear Jeremy Clarkson chooses the best of the newest hatchbacks (1) (7457)

9.00 Third Rock from the Sun Sally becomes

disenchanted with Earth (1) (415780)

Mummies — Horizon Special Discovered in the

frozen reaches of an Apine pass, the body of a man from the Stone Age has become a window into a long-lorgottan

Dave Roomey, Craig Evens (10.15pm)

Atrophy describe how they lead an active

shadow of a terminal condition (810631)

10.26 Video Nation Shorts (326877)

11.15 Snooker: The Masters (858419)

12.30am-5.30 Learning Zone: In Search of Identity 1.00 Me: a Student? 1.30 Fair

Trading 2.00 The Fashion Business 4.00 Greek Language and People/French Know How 5.00 The Small Business

Programme 5.30 20 Steps To Better

12.00 The Midnight Hour (43620)

10.30 Newsmight (1) (516761)

11.55 Weather (733544)

Before I Die Two teensgers

suffering from Spinel Muscular

world (1) (405235)

WEST: Close Lip SOUTH; Southern Eye

5.45 Snooker: The Mesters (261186)

(674934)

officer (Alun Armstrong) that he's slept with a man. This is in 1952. "Can't you forget about it?" he keeps asking the stone-faced Armstrong. "Can't you?"

A genius pleading with a jobsworth is an unpleasant sight.

Jacobi's upturned face is the perfect mixture of mask and passion; as an actor, he can personify abject loss and loneliness better than anyone I know. Years ago, his Cyrano de Bergerac made me actually sob in the stalls; to see his Alan Turing on telly at last (courtesy of producer Jack Emery and director Herbert Wise) was a real, if unexpected, treat.

f course, the rest of the evening wasn't all as good as that. ITV gave us Supply and Demand, a two-hour pilot for yet another cops-by-numbers series, this time about undercover drugs-busting. Created by Lynda

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

La Plante (creating is so much harder than just writing). Supply and Demand attempted to make up for stereotypes by questionably casting Juliet Aubrey (of Middle-march) as a rough DS with dirty hair and estuary vowels. Mean-while Freddie Starr was, rather alarmingly, Mr Big, with give-away car numberplates (FIST FK) and sinister dangly earning. I remember an unkind comedi-

an saying Mia Farrow chooses children as if she's playing Countdown. "I'll have a black one. please. And a Chinese one. And another black one." British teamcop drama is cast like that, too; only there's also always a Scot, an Asian and someone from Tiger Bay as well, not to mention an uppity broad. Of course, it's quite right that racial mix should be an issue in telly drama (it encourages the others), and luckily, Supply and Demand had one original idea which had nothing to do with tokenism: the struggle between two black policemen from different backgrounds - Eamonn Walker as the handsome Jake, a slick and plausible infiltrator of drug scams; Ade Sapara as stiff-necked DI Harrington, forced by circumstance to attempt a Rasta impersonation. Both were excellent. But the United Colours of Benetton back-up team were murpoets. there's just no other word.

Is Supply and Demand really a "one-off drama", as it was billed? The trouble is, even if it becomes a series, there's no point getting attached - they just come and go, these team-cop efforts, with no regard for the hours the viewer is prepared to put in. We make good imitations of the NYPD Blue format here (Out of the Blue was strong: The Knock was huge), but you always feel, as a viewer, each week could be the last. However, if Supply and Demand does catch on, it might address one particular oddity: that last night it made surveillance look ludicrously easy. Whenever Starr looked out of his car, he'd find Aubrey talking openly into her mobile phone, and somehow or other, not notice.

hris Morris's long-awaited send-up. Brass Eye (Chan-nel 4), has certainly caught on already, but to be honest, it gets its biggest laughs from me not

CENTRAL

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7573273)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7051709)

6,25 Central News (296341)

6.55-7.00 Lifeline (142341)

10,40 Crime Stalker (586790)

11.40 Bagdad Cafe (940612)

1.25 Club Nation (5472113)

5.20 Asian Eye (2932303)

2.25 Shift (2187804)

As HTV West except:

As HTV West encept:

As HTV West except:

100

12.25 Funny Business (1718571)

12.55 Ed's Night Party (7765939)

3.25 Central Jobfinder '97 (316194)

12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6609167)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7051709)

6,00-7,00 Westcountry Live (47964)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7051709)

ANGLIA

12.19pm Anglie Air Watch (661 1902)

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7573273)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7051709)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (341)

6.30-7.00 Geinways (693)

10.40 Cruel Doubt (65038544)

5.00em Freescreen (23587)

6.25 Anglia News (296341)

6.55-7.00 What's On (142341)

10,29 Anglia Air Wetch (348631)

MERIDIAN

12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (7573273)

WESTCOUNTRY

12.10am Profile (4852113)

As HTV West except:

lebrities swallow ridiculous madeup news (poor saps), but when the graphics and urgent current affairs jingles go on, and on, and on - pah-pah-pah, pah-pah-pah until the preening self-importance just crumbles to bits.

Drugs were the issue of the second programme last night, and Morris was down on the street, flimed from above in fuzzy nightlight, asking an increasingly irritated dealer for "triple sod" and "yellow bentines". Meanwhile Noel Edmonds was somehow persuaded to make a genuine appeal against a new Czech drug called Cake (a huge yellow aspirin, the size of a discus) which can affect the part of your brain called "Shatner's Bassoon". I don't quite understand how trapping Noel Edmonds in a con is any more sophisticated than a "Gotcha". But then, satire is such a complicated world, these days.

thes ahead

UNY LETTERHEADS

en buyback

6.00em Business streetes (7.00457)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (7) (90457)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (80200) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (8020051) 9.20 All Over the Shop (1750490) 9.45 Kilroy (6025254) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (26983)

BBC1

11.00 News (T) and weather (6601457) 11.05 The Really Useful Show (9157341) 11.45 Smille's People (1968341) 12.00 News (T) and weather (6603983) 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5289051) 12.30 Going for a Song (7570186) 171 2 at 5.5% 12.55 The Weather Show (34687032) 1.00 News (7) and weether (93544)

1.30 Regional News and weather (98511815) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (20180505) 2.05 Quincy (8465186)

2.05 Glundy (8457185)
2.50 Shooker: The Masters (4594761)
3.30 Playdays (1999896) 3.50. Casper Classics (2014457) 3.35 Whami Bami Strawberry Jami (7786761) 4.10 Free Willy (9086070) 4.35 The Reetly Wild Show (6587964) 5.00 Newsround (7) (7444032) 5.10 Grange Hill (1734506) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (278419)

(OF COTON 6.00 Nows (I) and weather (273) 6.30 Newsroom South East (525) 7,00 Watchdog Consumer Issues, pre-sented by Anne Rubinson (383761)

7.25 Comic Relief: The Launch (608231) 7.30 EastEnders Phili begins to realise the gravity of his situation (1) (709)

in the series tolows the western dismondback ratilesnake from birth, through its fight for surviel in the Sonoran Desert (T) (2380) 8.30 Next of Kin Georgia announces to her

weary grandparents that she is going to tast for world peace, but Maggie's concerns grow when she falls to start eating again (1) (9815)

9.00 News (1), regional news and weather (915)

(8167)
9,30 Comic Relief: The Launch (673885)
9,35 The X Files When couch-potatoes suddenly become overwhelmed by the urge to kill, Mulder believes they could be victims of a plot to manipulate society through television. Scully despets as he partner appears to jump to yet another bizane conclusion. With David Duchovny

oute escalat and Gillian Anderson (427983) 10.20 The Frank Skinner Show Stand-up comedy and interviews (1) (352032). 10.50 Question Time David Dimbleby's guests are the Agriculture Minister Angels Browning, the Shadow Minister

Women, Janet Anderson, the writer and broadcaster Richard Littlefohn and the leader of the Plaid Cymru. Dafydd Wigley Remaden Journeys Accisimed novelist Ander Soueli revisits the Egyptian places

of her childhood (634612) 12.10 Fil.M: Travelling North (1987) Cornedy, with Leo McKern. A retired Australian businessmen leaves Melbourne to build a new life in North Queensland, where he learns he is suffering from a rere but serious heart condition. Directed by Carl Schultz (896113) 1.45am Weather (2304620)

The numbers had to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode** numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videophus+ (**), Pluscode (**), and Video Programmer are trademarks of

BBC2 Incredible Journeys: A Rattlesnake's Tale BBC1, 8.00pm

6,00em Open University (8991709) 6.25
Why Me? Why Now? (8903544) 6,50 Brief
Encounter 7.15 News 7.30 Secret
Squirrel and Co (1956490) 7.55 Size
Peter (7550235) 8.20 Wishing (r)
(7929148) 8.35 The Record (9466187)
9.00 The Science Collection (1778896) The last film in a series that has been outstanding even by the high standards of the wildlife geure travels to the Arizona desert. The subject is the western diamondback rattlesnake, a creature of assonishingly regular habits. After taking four years to reach adulthood, it sets out each the series of the s 9.25 into Work (8206490) 9.40 Megameths (2535273) 10.00 Playdays four years to reach adulthood, it sets out each year on the same journey to the same destinations. This time the camera goes too. As usual in such programmes the lens manages to get in closer than the human eye ever could, even following the snake into the underground refuge where it hibernates for the winter. But there is a bit of filmic licence as well, simulating the snake's use of a heatimaging sense to track his prey. All in all it is very much a snake's eye view, not least when a vicious red-tailed hawk comes swooping down out of the sky hoping for a quick kill and a tasty dinner. (54167) 10.30 Storytime (3399029) 10.45 Teaching Today (152728) 11.15 Heathe 3 (2606544) 11.35 Lendmarks (T) (5593525) 11.55 Techno (1953419) 12.15 Quinze Minutes Plus (6577362) 12.30 pm Working Lunch (42419) 1.90 Lieschoo! (24816831) 1.25 lashel (15285490) 1.45 Numbertime (9898964) 2.00 Wishing (r) (88019362) 2.10 Snooker: The Masters (8769525) 2.50 Holiday Outings (r) (3812506) 3.00 News (f) 3.05 Westminster (f) (2891186) 3.55 News (f) 4.00 Snooker (8709)

Robson Green, Michael Kitchen and Francesca Armis star in a six-part drama from Paul Abbott, who has previously distinguished himself as a producer and writer on Crucker. But Reckless is not a police series and nor, although the main characters are attached to a hospital, is it characters are attached to a hospital, is it primarily a medical show. Green plays a pushy young surgeon who applies for a registrar's post at a Manchester hospital and falls hopelessly in love with the attractive management consultant (Annis) responsible for assessing him. The trouble is that she is some years older and married. There is more. Her husband (Kitchen) turns out to be none other than Green's new boss. It says much for the quality of Abbout's writing that. much for the quality of Abbott's writing that, despite some implausibilities, the plot operates on a lottler plane than this baid synopsis might suggest.

lee Manumies — Horizon Special BBC2, 9.25pm

The second in this intriguing series about frozen bodies from long ago features a glacial morrory discovered by two hikers on a mountain pass in the Alps. That was in 1991 and ever since scientists have been trying to unlock the secrets of the "location" and reconstruct his way of life. Experts reckon that the work will go on for many years yet but if this is only an interim report, it contains much to ponder. Having dated the corpse at 5,300 years old, archaeologists have had to rethink their ideas about the Copper Age. Before the loeman, there was no evidence of a cooper industry in the Alps so long ago. Now there is pienty. But while the scientists try to agree, the politicians are haggling. The Iceman was found on the border between Italy and Austria and both

Before I Die: Getting On With It BBC2, 10.15pm

Tonight's testimonies from the terminally-ill are particularly poignant because the subjects are so young. Not that Craig, 17, or his 16-year-old best friend, Danny, are full of his lo-year-old best friend, Danny, are full of gloom. On the contrary they come across as typically boisterous and cheeky teenagers, interested in girls, football and rock music. They are determined to go to college, one to do a course in business studies, the other to pursue his talent for art. Sadly, they may never get there. Both suffer from Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a genetic condition that withers away the body. They have never been able to stand or walk. Confined to wheelchairs, they could die at any time. They have lost close friends from similar diseases. But it is not going to stop them doing things while they still can.

6.00mp GMTV (1671419) 9.25 Win. Lose or Drew (1775709) 9.55 Regional Name (5743273) 10.00 The Time, The Place (41693) 10.30 This Morning (33096032)

12-20 Regional News (6609167) 12.30 News (T) and weather (7565254) 12.55 Shortland Street (7573273) 1.25 Home and Away (1) (15203896) 1.50 Attempon Live (20195438) 2.20 Vanessa (1)

(30094438) 2.50 Attempon Live (5094780) 3.20 News (T) (5307065)

3.25 Regional News (6757506) 3.30 The Riddlers (7701070) 3.40 Wizadora (9492032) 3.50 The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh (1988780) 4.15 Mike And Angelo (9087709) 4.40 Sticky (3513099)

5.10 A Country Practice (7051709) 5,40 News (T) and weather (444525) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (288322) 6.25 HTV News (T) (553419) 7,00 Emmerdale (1) (6728)

7.30 Sunrival: Leopards and Hyenas — the Armies of the Night Widdle photographer Cindy Budon concludes her two-part documentary on Zambia's Luangwa Valley by investigating the unsavoury habits of hyenas (1) (877)

8.00 The Still Stater narrowly escapes death when a television set is thrown from the top of a block of flats (1) (2148) 8.36 Michael Barrymore's Strike it Rich (1)



Armis and Green as lovers (9,00pm)

Recidess New six-part romantic drama with Robson Green and Francesca Annis as Micit 10,00 News (T) and weather (80772)

10.30 Regional News (T) (709167) 10.40 FILM: The Boost (1988) James Woods

stars as a hotshot real-estate salesman who makes a fortune during a property who makes a fortune during a property boom, only to lose everything in the subsequent stump. Distraught at this sudden reversal of fortune, he embarks on a self-destructive bout of cocaine abuse, promoting his long-suffering wite to take decisive action. Directed by Harald Becker (1) (85038544) 12.25em in Bed With Medinner (1718571)

12.55 Funny Business (5469649) 1,30 Cyber Cate (7220804) 1,55 Late and Loud (r) (7928823) 2,55 ITV SPORT CLASSICS (9159945) 3.25 The Good Sex Guide Late (r) (1199303) 4.25 Sound Bites (95119620) 4.35 The Time, The Place (r) (45654939)

5.00 The New Mr and Mrs Show (r) (23587)

5.30 NEWS (44303)

S4C 7.00 The Blg Breakfast (83167)

9,00 Bewitched (20709) 9,30 Ysgolion (954709) 12.00 House To House (33273) 12,30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (60815) 1.00 Slot Melthrin (86254)

1.30 No Offence (98595877) 1.45 FILM: Our Man in Marrakesh

(94094419) 3,30 Ricki Lake (159) 4,00 Fifteen-To-One (506) 4.30 Wild Relations (490) 5.00 5 Purms (4506)

5.30 Countdown (970) 6,00 Newyddion (802051) B 05 Heno (206728) 6.35 Gair Am Aur (171693)

7.00 Pobol y Cwm (316099) 7.25 Pwy 'Di Pwy? (681186) 8.00 Parn Ft, Duw? (3490) 8.30 Newvoldion (2525) 9.00 A55: Euog (8419)

10.00 W Y Misus (34902) 10,30 FILM: Betrayed - A Story of Three Women (65012506) 12.15am Dispatches (9569533)

1.00 FILM: The Last Train From Gun HIII (1959). A western drama starring Kirk Douglas, Anthony Quinn and Earl Holliman. Directed by John Sturges

CHANNEL 4 6.00am Sesame Street (95273) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (83167)

9.00 Bewitched (r) (20709) 9.30 Schools (954709)

12.00 House to House (33273) 12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier Stuffed vineleaves (r) (50815)

1.00 Cyblil (r) (T) (86254)

1.30 Pete Smith Speciatties Advice to radio hams (20177032) 1.55 FILM: Home At Seven (1952) Suspense thriller in which director Ralph Richardson plays a bank clerk who loses four hours of his life during which time he could have become a thief and a murderer Also starring Jack Hawkins and Margaret Leighton (T) (18071761)

3.30 Collectors' Lot Chippendale furniture (T)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (506) 4.30 Countdown (T) (490) 5.00 Ricki Lake (1) (4506)

5.30 Pet Rescue Ducks, pigeons and chickens (970)

6.00 New Gamesmass McKenna (T) (983) 6.30 Hollycaks Jambo has dating on his mind

7.00 Channel 4 News (I) (173380)

7.50 The People's Agenda (876090) 8.00 An Inspector Calls Following Insurance

inspectors as they investigate some of the questionable claims made by motorists (r) (T) (3490)

8.30 TV Dinners Tonight's featured meals are a "gentleman's breaklast" at the equestrian Empire Club; and an all-night Caribbean feast (T) (2525) 9.00 Dispatches A continuation of last week's investigation into Sotheby's regular sale

of what are said to be amuggled works of art (T) (420544)

9.45 The Long Johns John Fortune and John Bird play two country gents discussing the moral decline of Britain (T) (827781)

Holmes, Costigen, Finneran (10pm)

19.00 FILM: Pitta, Sue and Bob Too (1987) Michelle Holmes and Siobahn Finneran star as two 15-year-old girls who receive improper suggestions from the men they bebysit for. Also with George Costigan Directed by Alan Clarke (T) (967902)

11.45 Babylon 5 (r) (T) (238631) 12.40am Unquiet Graves Examining a mass grave discovered in the Ukraine in 1990 which contained not only victims of Stahnism but also bodies of those murdered by the Nazis (r) (T) (2960649) 1.45 Nothing but the Truth A discussion on euthanasia. With Dr Phillip Nitschke and Professor Stephen Hawking (r) (505262)

2.45 Hitter Stole my Ideas (r) (9543649) 3.40 Schools (T) (690194) 5.30 Backdate (r) (1) (42945)

BRAVO

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

7.00pm (fercules (5094544) 8.00 Sticker 7.00pm Percuses (1997/28) (1970/64) 9.00 Highlander: (\$9907/28) 10.00 Tell War (\$985815) 11.00 Late 5now, with David Letterman (\$252612) 12.00 Hit Mix Long Play (7683695)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. SKY MOVIES

6.00am Long Ships (1964) (\$5152341) 6.10 Great Waldo Pepper (1974) (19503002) 10.00 The Double Man (1967) (83167) 12.00 Josh and SAM (1963) (87419) 200pm The Wicked Stepmother (1969) (2322) 4.00 Seasons of the Heart (1963) (3419) 6.00 Pollow the Piter (1965) 61953341 7.40 US Too 10 (1985) (3419) 6.00 Follow the Head (1986) (91958341) 7.40 US Top 10 (190148) 2.00 Forget Paris (1995) (190148) 2.00 Forget Paris (1995) (10,15 Disclosure (1984) (348083) 10.15 Disclosure (1994) (84909633) 12.20cm Physician (1994) (7477736) 1.30 Forget Paris (1996) (203981) 3.30 Goodbye Pork Pie (1981) (64735)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 4.45am 1 Welfard with a Zombie (1943) (752093) 8.00 Where the Red Fern Growt: Part Two (1988), (95498) 10.00 Statisty's Hurfoura (1949) (91709) 12.00 Silanos of Adultery (1945) (78781)

2.00pm, Brighten Young (1940) (21984)
A.00 Where the Red Fern Grown: Part
Two (1960) (4761) 8.00 Alone in the
Woods (1989) (41725) 8.00 The Meding
of a Hollywood Bladen: The Heldi Fishes
Story (1966) (48273) 10.00 The Gelmely
(1964) (22825) 11.35 The Red Shoe
Dierice No. 8: Hory I Met My Hamband
(1963) (388488) 1.20mm Moncilit (1963)
(22053) 2.55 The Mert in My Life
(L'Homme de Mé Vio) (1963) (415804)
A40 Brightem Young (1940) (50022485)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 6.00pm Sengeent York (1947) (19549433) 8.15 Nothing But Trouble (1991) (4538308) 10.00 Commendo (1985) (750822) 11.35 Semething Wind (1985) (8738070) 1.30nm Penty in Pink (1986) (9082397) 3.10-4.55 The Son of Monte Cristo (1940) (2848281) CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous Carpone Hone has below.
9,00pm An American in Paris (1981)
(28079780) 11,00 Jesubel (1988)
(28291544) 12,30am Border Incident
(1988) (22289945) 2,30-5,00 The Case of (1940) (25:30545) 23(1940) (50274874) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL.

Stoy Movies Gold taless over at 20pm.

8.00em Mouse. Tracks (9425322) 5.25

Cuack Attack (9444457) 8.00 Benness (2888770) 7.15 Ligh Mermaid (8085254)

7.49 Aladdin (1098544) 8.06 Good Troop (715916) 8.20 Timen and Pustbas (9478419) 8.00 Timen and Pustbas (9478419) 8.00 Timen and Pustbas (9478419) 8.00 Timen and Pustbas (9478277) 9.56 Lamb Chop (4118902) 18.25 Mappas Beties (973544) 10.50 Dumbo (898500) 11.20 Mouse Tracks (9294256) 11.30 Underthe Limbrais Time (4112457) 12.20pm Timen and Pumbas (2602259) 12.25 The Lipis Mammaid (4132505) 1.00 Fipper (9783544) 1.45 Aladdin (97867165) 2.10 Delivering Duck (77474022) 2.35 Bonkers (1382235) 3.30 Ouack Attack (9756435) 3.25 Timen and Pumbas (2002396) 2.35 Good Troop (1201273) 4.00 Timen and Pumbas (7294024) 4.10 Good Troop (2012353) 4.35 Bonkers (6337677) 5.00 Aladdin (9784577) 5.25 Firms and Pumbas (3339400) 5.25 Good Troop (1201273) 4.30 Bonkers (6337677) 5.00 Aladdin (9784577) 5.25 Firms and Pumbas (333940) 5.25 Contoning Duck (179709) 6.00 Bone Chillen (9831) 4.30 Boy Meats World (9833) 7.30 Daw's World (9707) 7.30 Figure The Yearsing (95922) 8.00 Taxon (60167) 9.30-10.00 Golden Cyte (90051)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00mm Three Little Ghosts (7828983) 6.303 impector Geolget (9261273) 7.00 Sentural Pizza Cata (524864) 7.30 Power Perigent (526969) 9.00 Mesisad Rider (5800254) 9.30 Grocadao (5939525) 9.00 Rimba's lettrol (1372083) 9.26 Zoobbee Zoo (4826148) 9.45 Why Why Family (1214677) 10.00 Pinocohio (9262525) 10.30 Billy the Cat (5919781) 11.00 Pinocohio (9262525) 10.30 Billy the Cat (5919781) 11.00 Pinocohio (9262525) 12.00 Rimba's latend (99682780) 12.25pm Zoobbee Zoo (917980) 11.90 Pinocohio (99682780) 12.25pm Zoobbee Zoo (917980) 11.90 Pinocohio (99682780) 12.25pm Zoobbee Zoo (917980) 12.25pm Zoobbee Zoo (917980) 12.25pm 12.00 Rimbu's leterid (19982790) 12.25 pm Zooblee Zoo (191708902) 12.45 Why Why Family (4960625) 1.00 Princetino (5242235) 1.30 Billy the Cat (9201525) 2.00 Three Little Gihosts (5423254) 2.30 Inspec-tor Gadget (3227457) 3.00 Sentura (922202) 4.00 Casper (5518709) 4.30 Power Rang-ers (5402761) 3.30 Ace Ventura (3522902) 4.00 Casper (5518709) 4.30 Power Rang-ers (5407659) 5.00 Masked Rider (5414506) 5.30 Spideman (2521273) 6.00 Gooseburges (5529188) 6.30-7.00 Sweet Valley High (5519438) SKY SPORTS 1

7.00em Sports Centre (78273) 7.30 Chellenge (17148) 6.30 Recing Neme (78709)
9.00 Cricket (40802) 17.00 FA Cup FourfiRound Replay (91051) 12.20pen Bowing
Spocial (88289) 1.00 Golf: South African
Open — Live (48341) 4.00 Grass Roote
Rughy (5002) 4.50 Nefbusters (1185) 4.59
Sports Centre (674602) 6.00 Superstars
(6761) 6.00 Sports Centre (2051) 6.30
Bouring (6831) 7.00 Inside the PGA Tour
(7490) 7.30 Croker (24052) 9.30 Cricket
New Zeeland v England — Live (8432273)
4.30em-6.00 Sports Centre (50216)

SKY SPORTS 2 8.00pm Fishing Tight Lines (1748995) 6.00 Gelf South African Open (1741993) 11.00 Bobby Chariton's Football Scrapbook (406992) 12.30mm-1.00 Rugby Union: Hall of Fame — John Kinkon (3301113) SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Beach Volleybell (88679051), 1.00 pm fron Worten (29941273) 1.36 Grass Roots Rugby, (86699615), 2.00 Futbol Mundiel (68109460), 2.30 Choket (68353416), 4.30 Inside the PGA Tour (21520269), 5.00 Futbol Mundiel (68123070), 5.30 Beach Volleybell (48243815), 6.30 League, Fastow (69619603), 7.30 Footbelt, Celtic v Raith Figures — Live (19065780), 10.00 Sports Centre (62401525), 10.30 Boxing, Special (82410273), 11.00-11.30 Inside the PGA Tour (63786544)

The state of the s



Debra Winger and Billy Crystal in Forget Paris (Sky Movies, 8pm)

EUROSPORT 7:30mm Motors (59146) 8:00 Alpine Skiing (94971) 9:00 Bishlon — Live (5970) 11:00 Alpine Skiing (93419) 12:30pus Cross-Country Skiing (93977) 1:00 Tristhlon (62612) 1:30 Snowboarding (91145) 2:00 Alpine Skiing (6709) 5:00 Alpine Skiing — Live (21709) 6:30 Car on the (9099) 7:00 Alpine Skiing — Live (21709) 6:30 Car on the (9099) 7:00 Alpine Skiing — Live (21709) 6:30 Car on the (9099) 7:00 Alpine Skiing — Live (21709) 9:00 Thirdeinot Crempionship (65198) 11:00 Alpine Skiing (49761) 12:00-12:30 Stem (23804)

6,00em The Krypton Factor (5178934) 6.30 Once Upon a Time (80110726) 6.45 Our Sackyard (41955506) 7.06 Alphabet Zoo (7318450) 7.16 Once Upon a Time (4379254) 7.30 The Ratum of the Antalope (2389255) 8.00 Cassic Commanus Sweet (2057051) 8.30 Farmies (2056322) 9.00 Dempsay and Malsopeace (9573542) 10.00 Second Thoughts (805022) 12.30 Two: Company (2066165) 11.00. The Shners (3279263) 12.00 Classic Caronalion Street (2077450) 12.30pp Families (2167411) 1.00 Albron Market (3389099) 1.30 The Vrypton Factor (5517952) 2.00 Drummonds

(8051(51) 3.00 Chessgene (2402341) 4.00 The Doctor Series: (6567544) 4.30 Second Thoughts (6563728) 8.00 Demosey and Malappeace (25507(9) 8.00 Classet Committee (2544633) 6.30 Families (8568273) 7.00 The Doctor Series (8568273) 7.30 The Octor Series (856 (3251435) 7.30 Two's Company (6564457) 8.00 Chessparre (1342780) 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (5055802) 9.35 The Good Life Guide (446624) 10.00-11.00 Demp-Life Guide (4466254) 10.00-11.00 Demp-sey and Makepeace (1365631) From 11.00pm-2.00em Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE From 6.00cm-9.00 TV High Street. includes consumer news and leatures From 9,00-12,00 Food and Wine. In-Includes Natural Health From 3.00-6.00 Horse and Gar Includes The Good Life Style Guide

A.00me Biography: Busier Keston — a Hard Act to Follow Part One (\$185093) 5.00 History Alive (4915512) 6.00 Our Century: Vietnam — the 10,000 Oay War (3851273) 7.00-6.00 Biography Advised "Bull" Halsoy: Navel Warnor (1739148)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL Tam-feet Trunckey to Sunday on schelle, and from Beam-term every day on cuble 1.00mm The Twisght Zona (6309262) 1.30 Tales of the Unexported (2236194) 2.30 Roof 100 Years of Hornor (8529464) 2.30 Roof

Serling's Night Gallery (9506991) 3,00-4,00 Friday the 13th (3519945)

TLC/DISCOVERY 9.00am The Joy of Parting (2396902) 9.30 Graw Your Own (3208457) 10.00 Surprise Chels (7437099) 10.30 Our House (2382186) 11.00 The Partied House (7594419) 11.30 This Old House (7595148) (159449) 11.30 the Uci House (1595148) 12.00 Sweet Timps (2593488) 12.30pm Graham Ker (5008483) 1.00 Today's Gournet (1919751) 1.30 Home Again (7065214) 2.00 Homethine (5993522) 2.30 Furnture on the Mend (2100254) 3.00

Furnture on the Mend (2100254) 3.00 Tuo's Country (5218457) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (2110299) DISCOVERY takes ever at 4.00pm. 4.00pm Righting Adventures 1 (2191506) 4.30 Breaking the Le (2180490) 5.00 Connections 2 (5213902) 5.30 Bayond 2000 (2104070) 8.00 Wald Things (4753542) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (5200438) 7.30 Mysterous Forces Bayond (2198419) 8.00 Professionals (3378821) 8.00 Top Marques (17507883) 8.30 Disaster (9503883) 10.00 Maddeal Detectives (2384167) 10.30 Science (2384167) //50/980) 9.30 Disease (95/389) 10.30 Science Departures (29/38167) 10.30 Science Departures (29/3815) 11.00 Cassic Wheels (19/36/38) 12.00 Magazine (9/34/07) 1.00em Roostovo (56/57/11.30-2.00 World of Adventures (4946904) UK GOLD

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellysteck (7266254) 7.38 Neighbours (3847099) 8.00 Crossroads (966612) 8.25 EastEnders (8239986) 8.00 The Batterial State of Resident (8239986) 8.00 The Batterial Tello Never the Twein (7439457) 10.30 The Sutherns (2394544) 11.00 Auter Brave (1940831) 12.00 Crossroads (2398986) 12.30 Neighbours (7508411) 1.00pm EastEnders (9376729) 1.35 No Place Liva Home (5585418) 2.10 A Little Bit of Emery (6168148) 2.20 Three Up, Two Down (5086148) 3.00 Tellystack (6210815) 3.00 The Bit (2714457) 4.00 At Creatures Great and Small (7510457) 5.00 Bob's Full House (5641254) 5.40 Crossroads (6361877) 6.05 EastEnders (534541) 8.40 Generation Game (5106457) 7.36 Ate You Being Served? (6300761) 8.30 Russ Abbot (5290051) 9.00

The Bit (7509341) 9,30 The Equation (5264099) 10,30 Not the Nane O'Clock News (9565641) 11,05 Men Behaving Badly (9267631) 11,40 Alexes Syyle's Suff (1326780) 12,15em The Best of Top of the Pops (3637465) 1.00 Miami Vice (9481674) 1.50 Shopping at Night (85831804) TCC

5.00am Hallway Across the Galaxy and Turn Lett (21148) 8,30 Ocsan Odyssey (25977) 7.00 Escape from Jupiner (60235) 7,30 Flash Gordon (78070) 8,00 Barman (6540) 8,30 Dennis the Merace (64761) 9,00 Earthworm Jim (16341) 9,30 Bobby's World (52273) 10,00 Homusit the Randeer (69457) 10,30 Exchapted (14525) 11,00 Denger Mouse (78877) 11,30 Grandale High (74506) 12,00 Ocsan's Orchestra (55657) 12,30pah An Alliack (23761) 1,00 Raad to Avontes (51644) 2,00 Ocsan Odyssoy (2728) 2,30 Escape from Jupiter (7148) 3,00 Batman (1235) 3,30 Flach Gordon (5693) 4,00 Earthworm Jim (1728) 4,30-5,00 Dennis the Menace (3952) MICKEL ODEON NICKELODEON

6.00em Turties (15962) 6.30 Bater Micro (47815) 7.00 Rocko (5283815) 7.15 Hey (A7815) 7.00 Poole (128-5115) 7-13 may Arnold (7/05677) 7-20 Puggas (55322) 8.00 Doug (60780) 8.30 Amen'n Red Monsters (69051) 9.00 Aven and the Cripmunks (36831) 9.30 Arthur (94235) 18.00 Banenes n Pysmes/Minnel's 10.00 Bonanes in Prjamss/Mimab's. Housefulzae's Library/Mir Mar/Banana (51506) 11.00 Chaldren's BBC (64070) 12.00 Magic School Bus (70167) 12.30pm Mir Men (80051) 1.00 Bebar (75186) 1.30 Kabe and Orbis 197322) 2.00 Liftle Bear Stones (4544) 2.30 Chaldren's BBC (17254) 2.30 Feed Maristers (1709) 4.00 Bruno the Kid (3544) 4.30 Rugnas (6800379) 4.45 Doug (5241542) 8.00 Sister State (5836) 5.30 Kahan and Kej (3760) 6.00 Abr. Mackinski S. 20-7.00 Abr. Vou Abraid of the

7.00pm Enlartament UK (5032) 7.30 Rossame (6047) 8.00 Rossame (4780) 8.30 Monty Python (3818) 9.00 Cheers (48167) 9.30 Insc (18815) 10.00 It's Gary Shanding (71896) 10.30 Freeke (80544) 71.00 The Doctor is On (43612) 11.30 Monty Python (27051) 12.00 The Critic (38378) 12.30mm Soap (33123) 1,00 Cheers (82465) 1.30 Taxa (85804) 2.00 Enlartament UK (10129) 2.30 The Doctor is On (26735) 3.00 Fraster (55123) 3.30-4.00 it's Gary Shanding (13216)

8.00pm Robocop (5776857) 9.00 New Twilight Zone (750709) 9.30 New Twilight Zone (5103063) 10.00 Tour of Daty (812568) 11.00 FILMs Need the Feebles (4059327) 1.00em RoboCop (6746539) 2.00 Tour of Daty (823674) 3.00 FILMs Meet the Feebles (183997) 5.00 New Twilight Zone (5305674) 1.00em Twilight Zone (5305674)

UK LIVING G. Blazar Thry Living (21308815) 9.05 Glodrogs and Glamour (8275148) 9.10 Glabriello (1841490) 10.05 Lleny Springer (2402977) 11.00 Young and Restless (512612) 11.50 Proviside (2239457) 12.25pm Call the Doctor (84251983) 12.55 Tempesti (1480051) 1.49 Gordon Elicii (9588439 2.30 Appriy (4745986) 2.00 Livii (9588439 2.30 Appriy (4745986) 2.00 Livii (914591) 8.05 Lingo (56555693) 5.30 Licky Ledders (4749612) 8.00 1 Dissam of Jaannic (8127051) 6.25 Ready. Steedy. Cook (1135148) 7.05 Brockstof (1202709) 7.40 Who's Sorry New? (2511167) 8.05 Rolonda (4597728) 8.00 PLM: Willing to (58 6579148) 11.00-12.00 Spicy Sex Files (5248439)

CHALLENGE TV 5.00pm Price Time (6349677) 5.05 Electrosciers (1820544) 5.35 Prize Timo (274728) 5.50 Spelbound (187728) 5.50 Spelbound (187728) 6.60 Catchphrase (666998) 6.55 Prize Time (636612) 7.05 1056990) 6,55 Prize Time (836912) 7,05 Sele of the Century (111506) 7,30 Prize Time (619983) 7,40 Gaves Us Che (922708) 8,10 Prize Time (677070) 8,20 All Ched Up (576379) 8,50 Prize Time (880070) 9,00 Though the Keyhole (305864) 9,25 Prize Time (789761) 9,35 Businen's Holiday (216531) 10,00 Prize Time (887815) 10,05 Prize Time (2016331 19300 Pittle Time (2876351 State)
Treasure Hum (287728) 11.05 Pittle Time
(213544) 11.20 Love at First Sight (786341)
11.45 Pittle Time (637761) 12.00 Sate of the
Contury (74552) 12.30 mm Hart or Her
(36648) 1.30 Lou Grant (51194) 2.30 Snowy
Pittle (22754) 3.30 All Together Now
(55622) 4.00-5.00 The Foll Guy (74597)

MTV The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, live concert lootage, interviews and the latest music video charts. VH-1



SNOOKER 40

Doherty puts record straight at Wembley

SKIING 41 Downhillers join in chorus

of disapproval



Thorpe hurt on eve of second Test

Injury clouds England's preparations

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENC, IN WELLINGTON

ing under cover and injury concerns over influential players combined to leave both teams fretting about their strategies on the eve of the second Test match at the Basin Reserve here vesterday.

England's final practice session was aborted due to morning rain, with David Lloyd, the coach, remaining consistent to his themes of recent days by declaring that his players had done enough and would not be kept on stand-by for an improvement in

conditions. This could hardly be condemned as complacency, but it contrasted with the approach of New Zealand, who were able to begin a net session less than an hour after England had headed back to their hotel for a free day. They were eventually cut short by a before Chris Cairns had been the weather was also trou bling them. As had been forecast, steady rain began here on Tuesday afternoon put through the planned fit-Cairns, vital to the balance of the New Zealand side, and continued intermittently for much of yesterday. It was

predicted to clear some time today, but its significance for

the preparation and likely

behaviour of the Test pitch

situation we faced in Auck-land," he said. "This pitch

does not have as much mois-

ture as the last one, though,

and it is now much lighter in

colour after being cut since

ed the game, England took in one priceless asset. Alec Stew-

art is at present the most

prolific batsman in Test crick-

et and, although he will be 34 in April, he is confident that he has several years at this level

Stewart began this match requiring 54 runs to complete 1,000 in nine Tests since his recall to the team, against

India at Lord's, last June. It is a remarkable renaissance for

a player who might easily have been written off after his

toils of last winter and who

was dropped from the side to accommodate Nick Knight. "I never thought it was the

end," Stewart said yesterday.
"I just didn't think I would get back so quickly. When Nick was injured I took my chance

and, as I have now been scor

ing heavily for about nine

months, it's fair to say I have

never batted better. I have

played better innings but nev-

er made runs over such a

has been exemplary with bat and gloves and he identifies

job security as an important

reason. "In the past few years,

I have had a lot of different

batting positions, sometimes keeping and sometimes not," he said. "Just knowing for

sure what I will be doing through a tour is a great help."

Although he has not yet discussed it with Dave Gil-

bert, the Surrey coach, Stew-

art plans to take his England

role of No 3 batsman and

wicketkeeper into county cricket this summer. "I shall

have to keep more often if I am

to do it regularly for England

and it makes sense to settle in

in Auckland and his only innings since, in a benefit

match last Sunday, ended in

dismissal by Maia Lewis, the

New Zealand women's cap-

tain. He is not however, a

man who embarrasses easily

and his confidence is transpar-

ent. This is not the first purple

patch of Stewart's seven-year

England career. In 1992, he

made four centuries within

eight Test innings and the

third of them was on this

Stewart made a serene 173

the position," he said.

Stewart's form on this tour

period."

Whatever doubts surround-

yesterday."

The groundsman is now saying he is a day or two behind, which is the same

was not lost on Lloyd.

batted twice in the nets and bowled at half-pace. It was not convincing proof that his twisted ankle had recovered sufficiently and Heath Davis was added to the squad as a

A similar situation affected England. Graham Thorpe cricked his neck during field-ing practice on Tuesday — the same session in which Chris Silverwood was discounted by gashing his bowling hand and woke yesterday feeling stiff and restricted. Thorpe's form was restored by a century in the Auckland Test and, with no spare specialist batsmen in the tour party, England will have viewed this latest setback with dismay.

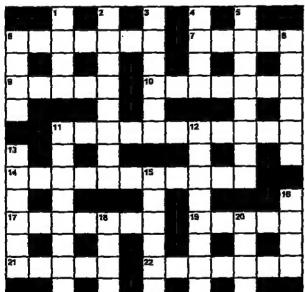
Walsh's future in doubt

GLOUCESTERSHIRE are to hold talks with Courtney Walsh, the county captain, about his availability for the coming season. Walsh will be flying in from Australia, where he has been captaining West Indies, to meet officials Walsh is due to play for

West Indies in a Test series in Sri Lanka that does not finish until June 17. Philip August, the Gloucestershire cricket secretary, said: "It is a fair bet he will want to play for the West Indies. We don't want him to play just for the last few months if we can't have him for the entire season."

TIMESTWO CROSSWORD

No 1010 in association with BRITISH MIDIAND



- ACROSS 6 "Conton-wool" cloud (7)
- 7 Equipped with weapon (5) 9 An extremist (5)
- 10 Whole number (7) 11 One of pack of 52 (7.4)
- 14 Property seller (6,5) 17 Walk awkwardiy (7) 19 Brief experience; artistic
- judgment (5) 21 Farnishing etc scheme (5)
- 22 Rhombus; precious stone

DOWN

- I Soot flake; dirty jokes (4)
- 3 Birthplace of St Francis (6) 4 Stupid, crazy (4)
- 5 One leaving to settle
- 6 Weapon association (4)
- 8 Tyrolean dress, skirt (6) 11 it. poet, loved Laura (8)
- 12 1914-18 world conflict (5,3) 13 Skilled (in); sounds like
- 15 Item list for meeting (6)
- 16 Join (metal) (4) 18 Reveal; unadorned (4)
- 20 Hole for coin (4)

2 Agreeable (8)

34 British Midland The Airline for Europe

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Post your entry to Times Two Crossword. PO Box 6886, London E2 SSP to acrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

SOLUTION TO NO 1009 ACROSS: 1 Prospero 7 Ennui 8 Thickness 9 Ugh 10 Hair 11 Impose 13 Bonnet 14 Gifted 17 Savour 18 Hill 20 Net 22 Ladies' man 23 Bonny 24 Wearthin DOWN: 1 Patch 2 Opinion 3 Pike 4 Rheims 5 Undue 6 Sighted 7 Estonia 12 Heavily 13 By and by 15 Triumph 14 Francisco 17 Street 16 Lines 21 Base

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 1997



Frankie Dettori, the champion Flat jockey, returns after riding Punkah in the Tyne Handicap at Wolverhampton. Five months after riding seven winners in a day at Ascot, the Italian had three rides, his first in Britain this year, all of which finished unplaced. Photograph: Barry Batchelor/PA

Doubts over Arsenal pair threaten Hoddle's plans

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON AND JOHN GOODBODY

important World Cup qualifying tie against Italy at Wembley next Wednesday have been hampered by injuries to the Arsenal pair, David Seaman and Tony Adams. Seaman has a knee problem while Adams is struggling with a wisted ankle.

Though they played in Arsenal's 1-0 FA Cup fourthround defeat against Leeds United at Highbury on Tuesday, neither finished the game in comfort. Seaman only played after a late fitness test and appeared to be slow coming off his line when Rod Wallace scored Leeds's winner

in the twelfth minute. "Perhaps that came a bit early in the game for him." Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, said, although I don't think he would have been able to get to the ball even if he had been fully fit. It is only a small injury and I think, with a few days' rest, he

should be OK for England." Adams, who may lead Eng-land out at Wembley as captain, left the pitch for two minutes during the second half to receive attention, but returned to play a vigorous role in Arsenal's feverish, yet fruitless, attempts at scoring an equaliser. "He's twisted the ankle, but, again, he should be right for the international."

Wenger said. Seaman and Adams report-ed to the England hotel, with the rest of the squad, in Buckinghamshire last night. Gary Lewin, who doubles as

ENGLAND'S plans for the the Arsenal and England physiotherapist, was expected

> Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, is already without three key players - David Platt, Teody Sheringham and Andy Hinchcliffe - while Paul Gascoigne and Paul Ince, his influential midfield play-

> England's first training session is at Bisham Abbey, Marlow, this morning and the mood among the players is optimistic. "We've just got to concentrate on our own game and not worry about what the Italians do, Sol Campbell, the

Year of the underdog 40 Albion post -Supporters' revolt

Tottenham Hotspur utility player, said. They are all good players, fast up front and solid at the back, and we know it's going to be tough."

The quest for a more distant World Cup goal — the hosting of the 2006 finals tournament will reach another milestone tomorrow when officials of Uefa, the European governing body, fly to London to explain why their organis-ation backed Germany nearly

four years ago. They will meet officers of the Football Association in an attempt to defuse the dispute, which is threatening the goodwill created when England record profit of more than £60

The two officials are likely to be Erzik Senes, of Turkey, and Per Rava Omdal, of Norway, although it is possible that Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, will also attend the Uela has insisted that it was

support the German bid three years ago, although the decision was never minuted. The final voting for the tournament venue takes place in June 2000 and will be carried out by Fifa. the world governing body.

The FA will want to know

well known that it decided to

how the Uefa decision was taken, the exact nature of its support, why the stance was taken nearly six years before the deadline for applications and why Uefa did not communicate the news to its member

countries. It will also ask why, at a reception on July I and at official dinners in September and November last year, when the FA made known its intention to bid for the tournament, no Uefa official mentioned the previous you in favour of Germany. It was only last Friday, after a meeting in Lisbon, that Uefa faxed the news to the FA headquarters in

The incident has also disturbed relations between England and Germany, with the Germans upset that the FA did not consult them before launching a rival application.

charges over tackle BRADFORD City have de-

Bradford opt to press

writ against Kevin Gray, the Huddersfield Town defender, after his controversial tackle on Gordon Watson during the game at the Pulse Stadium on Saturday that left the Bradford forward with a bro-

ken right leg. Bradford believe the weight of medical evidence and the video footage of the incident, taken from several angles, will lead to Gray's prosecution. Watson, who only joined Bradford three weeks ago from Southampton for a club record fee of E550,000, had to undergo immediate surgery for a double fracture and have a six-inch plate and seven acrews inserted in his leg. He will need at least one more

operation and will be out of

eight months. There are fears that the injury could mean the end of his football career. Michael Shepherd, a part-

ner of Hammond Suddards. Bradford's solicitors, is co dent that they can win both civil and criminal cases with the latter leading to Gray facing charges under sections 18 and 20 of the Offences Against The Person Act. Both involve grievous bodily harm, although section 18 relates to intent, something that Shep-

herd feels they can prove. "If we didn't think there was a case for Mr Gray to answer — and it's for a jury at the end of the day to say whether he is guilty or innocent of the matter - and a probability of securing a conviction, then we wouldn't have gone ahead," he said.

Clin

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Manka:

Era ends as Miller moves mountain

BY DAVID HANDS

ERIC MILLER may go on to an illustrious career in rugby union - his burgeoning reputation now includes Leicester and Ireland and seems likely to embrace the British Isles this summer - but, for now, he is the man who has displaced Dean Richards from the Leicester back row.

Miller, 21, a Loughborough University student, will play No 8 against Bath in the delayed Pilkington Cup sixth-round tie at the Recreation Ground on Saturday and none of Leicester's historians can recall Richards, the dub captain, being omitted from the team — when fit and available - before during his 15-year career at Welford Road.

Now Bob Dwyer, the Australian director of coathing at Leicester, has moved the apparently immoveable. Richards, talisman of club and country for so many years, must do service as a replacement, just like Rory Under-

wood, England's most-capped player, who has found himself overlooked so frequently this

This is the effect that Brive have had on Leicester. Richards, 33, has seldom been outmuscled in his life, but Brive did so in the Heineken Cup final last month. Only a year ago, Richards was the man recalled to save England and Jack Rowell, the national coach, against Scotland when the five nations' championship was slipping away.

"It was a tough call," Dwyer, who sung Richards's praises before the meeting with Brive, said. "Unfortunately, it goes with the job specification. I have every respect for people's achievements and mone more than Dean. He still has an important role to play, but Eric has had a good season." Not that Richards's day is

done. In a season when coach-

es have learnt to think in

terms of 21-man teams rather

than 15, tactical substitutions

play a key role and Richards

may well be seen against Bath, particularly if the going is soft. His experience and vision are vital in the further development of this Leicester team, but no longer as first choice. Indeed, Dwyer has talked about the possibility of playing second row, an option considered by Geoff Cooke when he was the England

team manager. Tacitum to the end, Richards expressed no surprise at



six outstanding back row play ers and it was inevitable something like this would happen," he said. "Eric has been playing well for Leicester and Ireland and has to be given a chance. I'm not the most dynamic player in the world and Bob wants more

Miller was told on Monday that he would be in the cup team, but believed that it would be at blind-side flanker, instead of John Wells, also 33. The unsung Wells, though, has been a model of consistency this season, while the power and drive which were second nature to Richards have been less in evidence.

Underwood, who fought back from disappointment to play against Brive, gives way to Leon Lloyd again against Bath. In addition, Leicester throw Joel Stransky, whose dropped goal won the World Cup for South Africa, into the fray at stand-off half.

Howley in hot water, page 41



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